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Inter-Arab Affairs

Arab League Chief Views Civil War in Yemen

AU3005110794 Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 30 May 94 p 132

[Interview with Arab League Secretary General Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid by unidentified correspondent; place and date not given: "We Are Supposed To Mediate"]

[Text] [DER SPIEGEL] Why has the Arab League failed in the conflict in Yemen?

['Abd-al-Majid] We have not failed; we made enormous efforts to defuse the conflict.

[DER SPIEGEL] But this has not prevented the fratricidal war.

['Abd-al-Majid] The Arab League does not have the right to intervene in the internal conflicts of a member state. The Republic of Yemen officially still exists as a unified state. Nevertheless, the Arab League remains an important political instrument, and that includes in the conflict in Yemen as well.

[DER SPIEGEL] What can you do?

['Abd-al-Majid] Both parties to the war in Yemen now want to negotiate. The Arab League has been called upon to mediate between Sana and Aden.

[DER SPIEGEL] Are you thinking of sending peacekeeping forces under the green banner of the Arab League?

['Abd-al-Majid] If both sides consider this appropriate, why not?

[DER SPIEGEL] In other conflicts in the region, the League has also been ineffective—for instance, in Somalia.

['Abd-al-Majid] No state whatsoever existed there, which made the costly intervention of UN troops difficult. International organizations cannot replace a state.

[DER SPIEGEL] The Arab League also stayed out of the rapprochement between the Israelis and the Palestinians.

['Abd-al-Majid] Not at all. By unanimously recognizing the respective UN resolutions, we have clearly accelerated the peace process.

[DER SPIEGEL] Are all Arab League members really ready to recognize Israel's right to exist?

['Abd-al-Majid] All, without any exception—under the precondition that all parties strive for a just peace on the basis of "land for peace."

Second Generation ARABSAT Satellite To Be Launched

LD2905152794 Riyadh Saudi Arabian Kingdom Radio Network in Arabic 1410 GMT 29 May 94

[Excerpts] His Excellency Alawi Darwish Kayyal, Saudi minister of post, telephone, and telegraph, arrived in Rabat today on a visit to the Kingdom of Morocco, during which he will participate in the proceedings of the 17th session of the general assembly of ARABSAT, which will start tomorrow, Monday. [passage omitted]

The minister said that ARABSAT is about to manufacture the second generation of ARABSAT, the first satellite of which would be launched soon.

He pointed out that ARABSAT has now become a firm economic institution.

Islamic Affairs

Political Islam Review: AL-SHA'B 20 May

NC2905091194

[Editorial report] The following review of the 20 May issue of Cairo AL-SHA'B summarizes articles that are Islamic in nature.

CONTENTS:

1. Trade Unions Express Solidarity With Lawyers After Attack
2. Correspondents Describe Violence at Lawyers' Demonstration
3. Lawyers Association Doyen Interviewed
4. Editor Says Fall of Government Matter of Time
5. Human Rights Organizations Condemn Attack on Lawyers
6. Muslim Brotherhood Issues Statement on Recent Violence
7. Politicians, Trade Unionists React Angrily to Police Violence
8. Will Shaykh al-Ghazali Deliver 'Id al-Adha Sermon?

TRADE UNIONS EXPRESS SOLIDARITY WITH LAWYERS AFTER ATTACK

The newspaper devotes its front page and many inside pages to reports, comments, interviews, and pictures of the government's violent confrontation of the demonstration staged by the Lawyers Association [LA] in Cairo on 17 May to protest the death of lawyer 'Abd-al-Harith Madani while in police custody. Under the banner headline "Flagrant Aggression Against the Lawyers' Demonstration," Ashraf Khalil writes a 600-word report on pages 1 and 7 in which he says representatives of the various professional associations held an emergency meeting to discuss the developments in the LA "after the security forces shelled their peaceful march with rockets and tear gas bombs." The report says the conferees were demanding the immediate release of detained LA Council members and a speedy investigation into the

circumstances that led to the death of Lawyer 'Abd-al-Harith Madani. The conferees are also cited as having expressed full solidarity with the LA Council. According to the report, the LA Council officially asked the public prosecutor "to immediately investigate the security forces' excesses" against the lawyers. The Council declared a state of emergency and considered itself in permanent session. A statement from the Council reportedly blames the interior minister and security commanders for the incidents. The statement demands the immediate release of all detained lawyers and rejects the charges brought against them.

A 600-word report by 'Ala' al-Bahhar and Khalid Yunus on page 4 discusses the arrest of several leading LA council members and other activist lawyers. It says security forces raided the houses of those people at dawn and took them to police stations. The report says the lawyers formed a committee to defend the detainees and rushed to the office of the public prosecutor to condemn the "oppressive measures."

CORRESPONDENTS DESCRIBE VIOLENCE AT LAWYERS' DEMONSTRATION

On pages 2 and 3, the paper gives an on-the-spot account of what it describes as "the brutal aggression against lawyers" in front of the LA headquarters in Cairo. It introduces its stories—a 800-word report by 'Abd-al-Rahman Isma'il on page 2, a 700-word report by Salah Budaywi on page 2, and an 1,500-word report by Mu'tazz al-Hadidi and Subhi Buhayri on page 3—by an unattributed comment that reads in part: "The government has added to its criminal antihuman rights record two new characteristics: stupidity and ignorance. Can any sane person attack the protectors of law with bullets and tear gas inside their association? It is an open invitation in the most intense form of extremism, and an opening to the doors of hell. It gives violence—which all of us reject—a fertile soil to flourish and take full control." The comment adds: "The government perpetrated its crime and was caught red-handed. The evidence is conclusive. So, what is the government waiting for before it leaves? Through its unsuccessful policy, the government has placed the entire country on the edge of a volcano that may erupt at any moment if the ignorant ones fail to return to their senses."

The three reports detail the situation before, during, and after the confrontation between the lawyers and the security forces in Cairo. They describe the heavy security cordon imposed around the LA building before the demonstration, how police officers threatened the organizers of the march and harassed journalists, how "hundreds" of lawyers suffocated from tear gas, and how security forces chased lawyers and citizens in nearby streets and conducted random arrest campaigns. The reports also cite lawyer leaders addressing the crowd before the demonstration. They reportedly demanded that the government stop torture and exceptional rules, and they urged lawyers to demonstrate unity and remain the strong defenders of law and freedom.

LAWYERS ASSOCIATION DOYEN INTERVIEWED

Page 2 also contains an approximately 1,500-word interview with Ahmad al-Khawajah, the doyen of the Lawyers Association, who, unlike most of the LA Council members, is not affiliated with the Islamic trend. Al-Khawajah refuses to blame the government for the incidents, but he describes the confrontation as "a serious setback for democracy." He notes the "over enthusiasm" of some young lawyers and says the problems arising from lawyer 'Abd-al-Harith Madani's death could have been solved through dialogue. Expressing his belief that there are suspicious circumstances behind Madani's death, he explains his efforts and contacts to reveal the truth of the matter.

EDITOR SAYS FALL OF GOVERNMENT MATTER OF TIME

In a 1,000-word article entitled "The Government Is Banging Its Head Against the Wall", Chief Editor Majdi Ahmad Husayn writes on page 1 that the government opted for "the brute force" to face the lawyers' moves after the "torture to death" of one of their colleagues. This, he says, reflects the weakness of the government, which fears that even a single demonstration may bring it down. Noting the various forms of oppression that the government uses to impose itself on the people by force, Husayn comments: "I tell you: your attempts will go in vain. Prolonging the life of a patient in the intensive care unit by artificial means will not be useful. It will only delay the date of the funeral, but the funeral is inevitable, as you know. The country cannot be ruled by tear gas and plastic bullets; this is new proof of the political void which the government and the hollow ruling party represent."

HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS CONDEMN ATTACK ON LAWYERS

Page 4 contains unattributed reports on statements by the Egyptian Organization of Human Rights [EOHR] and the London-Based Liberty organization denouncing the attack against the lawyers. The Egyptian organization's statement reportedly says: "The EOHR condemns the use of force by the security forces to break up the peaceful demonstration of the Egyptian lawyers because it is a violation of Article 54 of the Egyptian Constitution, which gives citizens the right to gather in a peaceful manner without prior notice. It is also a violation of Egypt's international obligations under Article 21 of the international convention on civilian and political rights, which was ratified by the Egyptian Government. The EOHR views the attack as new incriminating evidence against the authorities' position toward the citizens' right to express their views by all peaceful means, foremost through demonstrations and peaceful gathering." The EOHR also reportedly sent a letter to President Mubarak expressing "profound fears" that lawyer 'Abd-al-Harith Madani died as a result of torture. The letter urges the president to conduct an immediate and honest inquiry into his death.

MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD ISSUES STATEMENT ON RECENT VIOLENCE

Page 4 also includes a 700-word report on a statement by the Muslim Brotherhood discussing the recent developments and maintaining that the group has never advocated sedition or violent confrontations.

POLITICIANS, TRADE UNIONISTS REACT ANGRILY TO POLICE VIOLENCE

Page 5 contains three reports on reactions to the police confrontation of the lawyers' demonstration. In the first 1,800-word report, 'Abd-al-Hayy Muhammad and 'Adil al-Bahnasawi cite some party and trade union officials as condemning or regretting the incident. Liberal Party Leader Mustafa Kamil Murad is cited as saying that the police made a grave mistake in using force against the demonstration. Counselor Ma'mun al-Hudaybi, spokesman for the Muslim Brotherhood is cited as saying: "We regret and denounce what has happened. It is people's right to express their views as long as this is done in a peaceful and civilized manner. The use of force was meaningless. But what can we do knowing that the current regime is now characterized by violence, viciousness, and unjust oppression, and that state violence has become a firm policy?"

The second 1,500-word report by Tariq 'Abd-al-Hamid, and the third 1,500-word report by Khalid Yunus cite reactions by some lawyer leaders in Cairo and the governorates. They all denounce "government terrorism" and violation of law and human rights.

WILL SHAYKH AL-GHAZALI DELIVER 'ID AL-ADHA SERMON?

A 50-word announcement-like report on page 1 says leaders and members of the Labor party in Cairo will tomorrow, 21 May, perform the 'Id al-Adha prayers in Mustafa Mahmud mosque in Cairo. The report says Islamic preacher Shaykh Muhammad al-Ghazali will deliver the 'Id sermon. [Cairo al-Wafd in Arabic on 24 May reports that the government barred Shaykh al-Ghazali from delivering the sermon]

Political Islam Review: 'AQIDATI 24 May

NC2805082794

[Editorial report] The following review of the 24 May issue of Cairo 'AQIDATI summarizes articles that are Islamic in nature.

CONTENTS:

1. Controversy Over Book Continues
2. Islam and the West
3. UN Position on Bosnia-Herzegovina Criticized
4. Litigation Among Ulema
5. Muslims and the United States
6. Islamic Media
7. Schindler's List
8. Satellite Dishes

CONTROVERSY OVER BOOK CONTINUES

Beginning on page 1 and continuing on pages 10 and 11, the newspaper allots further space, an approximate total of 6,000 words, to a controversy first reported by 'AQIDATI'S 17 May issue, namely the publication of Professor 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-'Arusi's book "Towards True Islam: Studies in the Koran Bring True Islam to Light." The book—which addresses, among other matters, issues such as the unification and amendment of Muslim prayer times worldwide, amendment of ablution and hajj procedures, female modesty rules, and urges a modern interpretation of the religious edicts governing them—draws attacks from 'AQIDATI, Mufti of the Republic Dr. Muhammad Sayyid Tantawi, and several al-Azhar University professors. Tantawi points out that modes of worship are not a matter of opinion but are strictly regulated by the Koran and the prophet's example. Muhammad 'Abd-al-Hadi al-'Ujayl, mufti of Yemen, faults the writer, who is a professor of architecture, for his lack of academic credentials in religious studies.

'AQIDATI publishes a letter from Dr. Samir Sarhan, chairman of the Egyptian General Book Authority, who defends the decision to allow the book's publication. It also publishes a report written by the recognized Muslim intellectual Dr. Muhammad 'Imarah, who says that after asking the writer to alter and correct a few minor points, he recommended publication of the book which shows "a remarkable intellectual effort, independence of opinion, and the writer's personal labor in trying to interpret Koranic verses." He calls the book "a good research, made more valuable by the fact that it is the fruit of the contemplations of someone who is not a specialist in Islamic studies."

'AQIDATI then proceeds to dispute the arguments put forward by Sarhan and 'Imarah in the book's defense and reiterates that the book constitutes an attack on Islam.

A separate brief news item on page 10 reports that Shaykh Muhammad Futuh al-Sani', a mosque imam and prayer leader from al-Mansurah, has asked al-Mansurah's Prosecutor's Office to investigate the Egyptian General Book Authority for publishing the book that contains "bizarre ideas, foreign to Muslim concepts, that contradict the unanimous opinions of Muslim ulema such as the amendment and alteration of prayer times, fasting, and pilgrimage." He also demands that further printing of the book be halted.

Another brief report on the same page says that a committee of ulema from the al-Azhar-affiliated Council of Islamic Research examined the book and recommended its withdrawal from circulation. A brief report on page 2 reads: "Following 'AQIDATI'S campaign against some books published by the Egyptian General Book Authority, the Authority's officials are now inclined to prevent the publication of any book that has not been approved by al-Azhar."

ISLAM AND THE WEST

In a 1,000-word article entitled "Islamic Consensus and Western Incursion" in the "Islamic Perspectives" column on page 7, Dr. Muhammad 'Imarah, a well-known Islamic intellectual, discusses the tendency of orientalists to give undue prominence to Muslim "radical groups" and "bizarre intellectuals streams" in the Muslim world while ignoring moderate streams. He comments on a study by researcher (Martin Kramer) of Tel Aviv University who discusses the failure of Islamic conferences to confront Western incursions into the Muslim world. He also refers to other "Zionist studies" that focus on the success of "a Jewish minority in achieving their settlement project despite the [opposition of] the Arabs and Muslims who represent a quarter of humanity."

'Imarah says that the "Zionist scheme did not confront our nation with the power of the Jewish minority alone but is—by its nature and birth—a scheme of the imperialist West. Its forces are the forces of the ascendant Western civilization in which the Jews are merely the minor partner."

Recalling the efforts of major Islamic leaders and thinkers who sought to confront Western advances into the Arab-Muslim world, he says at least one of them, Jamal-al-Din al-Afaghani (1838-1897), understood that the nation could not be revived in time to withstand the "Western colonialist onslaught." 'Imarah continues that al- Afaghani realized that the circumstances of "backward Ottoman rule, reactionarism, misadministration, stagnation, injustice, and corruption," combined with the power of the industrialized West to preclude successful confrontation. For this reason al-Afaghani sought merely to reduce the losses and shorten the period of the nation's decline.

'Imarah concludes his article by saying these matters must be taken into account in the struggle against the West. He stresses that the West, two centuries after overrunning the Muslim world, is worried about Islam's increasing strength.

UN POSITION ON BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA CRITICIZED

The paper's "In All Frankness" column on page 6 is devoted to criticism of the United Nations for its lack of action on Bosnia-Herzegovina, faulting the UN for leaving its affairs under the "domination of the big five." The writer, Basyuni al-Halawani, voices astonishment at UN Secretary General Butrus-Ghali's recent remarks to a French radio that the United Nations is neutral and that it has achieved success in Bosnia-Herzegovina. He says the Bosnian Muslims were denied weapons at a time when arms were being smuggled to the Serbs and Croats. He says: "Had this organization adopted a just stance toward the afflicted Muslims in Bosnia, events would have taken a different course and the Muslims would have been able to defend their children, wives, and brothers and would have forced the Serbs to accept a peaceful solution."

LITIGATION AMONG ULEMA

In a 2,500-word report on page 3, 'AQIDATI solicits the views of several academics and officials on the phenomenon of ulema seeking legal redress against other ulema who, differing with them on religious matters, use invective and slanderous remarks. The background to this affair is a lawsuit brought by the mufti, Dr. Muhammad Sayyid Tantawi, against several al-Azhar academics who have been attacking his fatwas on banking transactions and bank interest in newspaper articles.

There is no consensus among the respondents on whether it is desirable for Muslim ulema to air their disputes on the pages of the newspaper. Some support it but others say that public airing of such differences diminishes the public's confidence in the ulema. As to litigation, Dr. Ra'uf Shalabi, a former deputy rector of al-Ahzar, would like such controversies to be settled quietly but finds nothing wrong with someone going to court if he has been slandered or verbally abused. Al-Azhar professor Muhammad Mazru'ah believes that disputes among ulema should not reach the point of hurling insults or accusations of disbelief. He notes, however, that when one describes the other, in the course of a religious debate, as "an ignoramus, a misguided person, or falsifier," this does not constitute invective or slander. He says taking such matters to court is harmful to both sides.

Counselor Ahmad Mahmud Haykal, a former Court of Appeals judge, says that if a religious dispute leads to personal insult, then the injured party has the right to seek legal redress.

MUSLIMS AND THE UNITED STATES

An 800-word article on page 20, by Muhmmad Muhammadayn, discusses a recent REUTER news analysis which says the United States strongly defends Islam and views Muslims as allies. It cites U.S. National Security Adviser Anthony Lake as saying that Islam is not the issue, but the extremists who exploit religion to attain political power are the issue. The writer finds REUTER's analysis strange and asks if the United States really defends Islam worldwide. He says: "Do the events in Bosnia-Herzegovina prove the sincerity of the U.S. National Security Adviser and demonstrate that Muslims are really Washington's allies?"

ISLAMIC MEDIA

In the second installment of an ongoing series of articles on media affairs, published on page 18 and discussing ways to "develop the Islamic media," 'Abd-al-Rahman Sunbul, director of Egyptian television's religious programs calls for increasing the "religious dose" on television throughout the Arab world. Senior religious programs presenter Muhammad 'Abd-al-'Aziz calls on the

Islamic Conference Organization to establish "an Islamic Information Institution" that will prepare radio and television programs dealing with the call to the faith. He says the INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC NEWS AGENCY [IINA] must be strengthened and assisted in disseminating the Islamic world's news without being influenced by "the distortions of other news agencies which inject poison into their reports."

SCHINDLER'S LIST

A 300-word report on the same page cites a comment by Radwan al-Kashif, a young Egyptian movie director, on Steven Spielberg's Schindler's List. He says he supports the screening of this film in Arab and Muslim countries but calls for the production of films "revealing Israel's crimes and practices." He says assistance from Arab governments to produce major motion pictures on this topic is necessary.

SATELLITE DISHES

A 200-word report on page 2 reports that a lawsuit brought by a young Egyptian lawyer demanding the "banning of the importation and circulation of satellite dishes" will be discussed by Cairo's Administrative Court on 7 June 1994.

The report continues: "The Lawyers Association's Islamic Shari'ah Committee has already declared its solidarity and backing for the request to ban the use of satellite dishes. It believes that our opening up to the outside world must be based on selecting [broadcasts] that harmonize with this nation's character and rejecting all that threatens to obliterate this character."

Palestinian Affairs

National Authority Meets, Discusses Action Plan

Previous Meeting Reviewed

JN2705142594 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 27 May 94

[Report by Muhammad Kurayshan from Tunis]

[Text] Today's meeting will discuss the bylaws that will organize the work of the Palestinian National Authority. So far, 19 out of the 24 members of this authority have been appointed. The bylaws will specifically seek to establish a democratic course of action and behavior that will allow this authority to avoid the mistakes and detours that have prevailed in the PLO Executive Commitee's work for years.

Yesterday's meeting discussed the program of the Palestinian National Authority and its prerogatives. It allocated 22 portfolios for health, economy, education, and other fields. However, the names of those who will be responsible for these portfolios will not be known before the end of the current meetings in Tunis and, perhaps, not before the authority is completely formed.

In this respect, informed sources here report that a figure close to the Hamas Movement and whose identity was not revealed will arrive in Tunis today for further consultations with the PLO leaders on the possibility of joining the authority. The sources added that Abu-Nidal Mussallami, member of the Central Committee of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, led by Dr. George Habash, would most probably join the authority.

According to sources from within the new authority, the apointment of the remaining members of this authority might take place at the end of the current meetings, but not necessarily so. Consultations in this respect may continue in the coming days.

Agenda Topics Detailed

LD2705220794 Tunis Tunis-7 Television in Arabic 1900 GMT 27 May 94

[Text] The Palestinian National Authority held its first official meetings yesterday and today under the supervision of its leader, Yasir 'Arafat, and in the presence of a number of the most prominent of the Palestinian leaders—at a time when Palestinian and Israeli sources said that Israel has this morning lifted the comprehensive security cordon that it imposed on the Gaza Strip last Friday following the killing of two Israeli soldiers at the entrance to the Strip.

Habib Ben Said reviews some of the topics discussed at the Palestinian national authority's meeting in Tunis before it assumes its duties in Gaza and Jericho:

[Ben Said] The participants continued the series of meetings today that began last evening and that were especially devoted to discussing the issue of distributing the duties within the Palestinian national authority, which will assume its responsibilities in the self-rule areas in Gaza and Jericho in its capacity as the Palestinian government during the transitional period.

It was learned today that the number of portfolios in the government has been limited to about 22 ministries. So far, 20 Palestinian figures have been appointed to the membership of the national authority, the last of which was the appointment of Muhammad Zuhdi al-Nashashibi, the independent personality in the PLO Executive Committee. This appointment was announced today.

The Palestinian transitional government is expected comprise 24 personalities—as stipulated in the 4 May agreement in Cairo between the PLO and Israel. Two seats remain vacant, and these are generally believed to be reserved for the Palestinian opposition if it wants to join the government.

It is worth pointing out here that Palestinian leader 'Abbas Zaki is currently holding consultations with some Palestinian factions in Damascus to convince them of the need to join the government and occupy some ministerial posts in the National Authority.

On the other hand, it has been said that the participants have also discussed the draft charter of a new government. In its outline, the draft affirms the necessity to adopt a democratic and rational type of behavior, which is based on the separation between the powers and the need to make supervisory mechanisms available to avoid any extemporization or autocracy, bearing in mind that the program of the draft document has been prepared by a specialized committee over the past two days. It controls the prerogatives of the Palestinian national authority, its duties, and the progress of its internal work, in addition to deciding the future program for this transitional government until elections are held in Gaza and Jericho before the end of this year.

Members To Take Oath in Homeland

NC2705171694 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1650 GMT 27 May 94

[Excerpt] Tunis, 27 May (MENA)—At its meeting today under Yasir 'Arafat's chairmanship, the Palestinian National Authority Council decided to have its members take the constitutional oath before 'Arafat on the homeland's soil. The Council also decided to have 'Arafat take the constitutional oath in the homeland before Salim al-Za'nun, alias Abu-al-Adib, acting chairman of the Palestine National Council, the Palestinian parliament.

This was stated by council member Dr. Samir Ghawshah following today's meeting. Ghawshah said that 'Arafat has decided to appoint Muhammad Zuhdi al-Nashashibi, member of the PLO Executive Committee and chief of its economic department, as a member to the council. He is the 20th member.

Ghawshah said that 'Arafat will continue his consultations with the various Palestinian powers to appoint five more members of the 25-member council. [passage omitted]

Draft Political Program Approved

JN2905111494 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1800 GMT 28 May 94

[Text] During its meeting in Tunis last night, which lasted until late this morning, the Palestinian National Authority Council approved its draft political program, which emphasizes the end of occupation, particularly in the [West] Bank and the [Gaza] Strip.

A responsible Palestinian source said that the program also emphasizes the PLO's stand on the problem of Jerusalem, which is part of the territories that were occupied in 1967, and that the Council reiterates the National Authority's abidance by the resolutions of international legitimacy, specifically Resolutions 242 and 338. The source added that the program also stipulates the formation by the PLO Executive Committee of the National Authority and its institutions and that the PLO is the basic reference for the National Authority Council and the authority's institutions.

The Palestinian National Authority Council decided to take the constitutional oath before brother Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], president of the state of Palestine, in the homeland following the return and after brother Abu-'Ammar is sworn in as chairman of the Council before brother Abu-al-Adib, Salim al-Za'nun, acting speaker of the Palestine National Council.

Ghawshaw Discusses Program of Action

NC2805191994 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1827 GMT 28 May 94

[Text] Tunis, 28 May (MENA)—The PLO Executive Committee, meeting under the chairmanship of Yasir 'Arafat, today approved the Palestinian National Authority's program of action for the coming stage.

Executive Committee member Samir Ghawshah said after the meeting that the Committee introduced some amendments to the program that the Palestinian National Authority Council had discussed and approved last night. Ghawshah added that this is an interim program that will be used until general elections are held in the West Bank and Gaza.

He declared that the program demonstrates that the National Authority will carry out its tasks through the concerned departments in a spirit of national commitment and will rely on Palestinian experts in various fields.

Ghawshah announced that the Palestinian National Authority is committed to all the agreements, treaties, and charters signed by the PLO and that it will seek to implement the Palestinian-Israeli Declaration of Principles, "the Gaza-Jericho Agreement," as a first step toward the restoration of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

He said the program approved today emphasizes Palestine's Arabness and the National Authority's desire to nurture close ties with the Arab countries. He noted that the program also stresses the National Authority's adherence to UN resolutions, particularly Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

[Cairo MENA in Arabic at 1810 GMT on 28 May reports: "The Palestinian National Authority Council today appointed Dr. 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Hajj Ahmad a member of the Council and minister of transport and communications. He is the 15th minister named."]

[The MENA report continues: "Faysal al-Husayni and Munib al-Masri remain members of the Palestinian National Authority Council, but without portfolios. Dr. Hanan 'Ashrawi has refused to be a member of the Council even though 'Arafat offered her the information portfolio. Sari Nusaybah has so far neither accepted nor declined 'Arafat's selection of him as a National Authority Council member. Faysal al-Husayni had formerly announced that he wished to devote his time to the Jerusalem issue and did not want to assume a ministerial post."]

Meeting Concludes

NC2905143294 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1300 GMT 29 May 94

[Excerpt] Tunis, 29 May (MENA)—The Palestinian National Authority Council last night wound up three days of meetings under Council Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, during which it appointed ministers for the National Authority and approved the Authority's program for the coming period.

Dr. Samir Ghawshah, council member and minister of labor and workers, said in the next few days 'Arafat will hold consultations with Palestinian groups to complete the formation of the council by appointing five more members. Thus, the members of the council will total 25, including 'Arafat.

Dr. Ghawshah said 'Arafat will hold consultations with the various Palestinian forces to complete the appointment of ministers from among the council members. Fifteen ministers were appointed yesterday. Seven other ministries remain vacant, including the Interior Ministry, which will be taken over by 'Arafat himself so he can directly supervise the Palestinian police and security forces. The Information Ministry remains vacant after Hanan 'Ashrawi, former spokeswoman of the Palestinian negotiating delegations, declined to take up that post. [passage omitted]

'Text' of 'Arafat's 'Draft Policy Statement'

JN2905191394 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 29 May 94 p 18

["Text of the Palestinian National Authority draft policy statement" which will be announced "the day Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat and the members of the Palestinian National Authority return to Palestine in the second half of June"]

[Text]

Ministries of the National Authority

1. Ministry of Health
2. Ministry of Education
3. Ministry of Finance
4. Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities
5. Ministry of Religious Affairs and Awqaf
6. Ministry of Municipalities and Village Councils
7. Ministry of Interior
8. Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry
9. Ministry of Social Affairs
10. Ministry Posts and Telecommunications
11. Ministry of Public Works
12. Ministry of Housing
13. Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Environment
14. Ministry Energy and Natural Resources
15. Ministry of Communications and Transportations
16. Ministry of Information
17. Ministry of Labor and Vocational Training
18. Ministry of Culture and Arts
19. Ministry of Justice
20. Ministry of Youth and Sports
21. Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation
22. Ministry of Expatriates

Departments

1. Accountancy Office and Financial and Administrative Control Department
2. Survey and Land Department
3. Employees and Civil Service Department
4. Economic Policies Research Institute
5. The Palestinian Economic Council for Development and Construction
6. The Palestinian Monetary Authority (the Central Bank and the Development Bank)
7. The Palestinian Statistics Center

Preamble

Palestinian Authority is established today on the liberated Palestinian soil in the Gaza Strip and Jericho area, declaring the end of long years of suffering and pain experienced by the Palestinian people as a result of occupation and displacement and long years of coercion inside the homeland and alienation in exile. Despite occupation and displacement, this great people have not surrendered or relinquished their rights. They resisted and struggled one generation after another for their freedom, independence, and repatriation to their homeland. They offered thousands of martyrs such as ['Izz-al-Din] al-Qassam, Hasan Salamah, and the prince of martyrs Abu-Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], and thousands of prisoners and wounded to regain their usurped rights. Throughout the years of struggle, this people have adhered to their national unity under occupation and in the diaspora.

This struggle and its various tools—armed struggle, political struggle, and brave intifadah—as well as this firm national unity constituted the real lever to regain the people's rights. This struggle led to recognizing our people, their leadership, and political framework, the PLO, the representative of the Palestinian people, whose cause has become the cause of the age. Consequently, world countries and organizations recognized the legitimacy of this people's struggle and right to independence and repatriation.

Our people have always believed in regaining their rights through a just peace that can achieve security and peace for all people in the region. In 1939, a nonsectarian democratic state plan was proposed; in 1974, a independent Palestinian state plan was proposed; and the Palestinian peace plan was presented on 15 November 1988. However, others rejected the participation of our people and their legitimate representative.

When the opportunity arose, our people and their leadership did not hesitate to join the Madrid peace process that produced the principles signed in Washington 13 September, 1993. Now that the Gaza-Jericho agreement—the first executive agreement of the Declaration

of Principles—has been signed, the first step toward the implementation of the peace project begins by implementing the Israeli withdrawal from Gaza and Jericho and the establishment of the Palestinian authority on this dear part of Palestine. We thus confirm the return of Palestine to the political map of our region and the world and the beginning of the process of regaining the rights of the Palestinian people on their land.

The Palestinian authority will work toward the step-by-step realization of the legitimate Palestinian aims—independence, freedom, equality, and repatriation—through negotiation and the peace process.

This will be realized through a commitment to the full implementation of the Gaza-Jericho accord and its development by entering the second phase as quickly as possible, beginning by settling what has not been decided in the agreement regarding the Jericho area and some areas of the Gaza Strip and by the early empowerment of the Palestinian Authority on the Palestinian territory in the West bank and then by convening the four-side committee in order to open the door for the return of those who were displaced after June, 1967 and for completing the interim period agreement that would bring about a total Israeli withdrawal from all the cities, villages, and camps of the West Bank, and electing the legislative council, and finally opening negotiations on the final status within the shortest possible period, as called for by the Declaration of Principles.

Our stand at the latest negotiations was absolutely clear. For us, these negotiations were the right way to bring about the full withdrawal from the territories conquered by Israel in 1967, the establishment of an independent Palestinian state, with Jerusalem as its capital, and the termination of settlement building in the West Bank and Gaza as it was ended in Egypt's Sinai in implementation of UN resolutions, especially Resolutions 242 and 338, and to find a comprehensive and just solution to the Palestinian refugee problem in accordance with UN Resolution 194.

Until all that is accomplished through negotiation and in phases, we stick to the territorial integrity of the Gaza Strip and the West Bank. We will also not allow any tampering with the status of the integrity of this Palestinian territory. We will also reject any interpretation of the postponement of the final status of Jerusalem that would allow the occupation authorities to change the physical or demographic status through illegal settlement activities or the continuing development and isolation of the Arab city of Jerusalem and its people. We emphasize the Arab and Palestinian identity of Jerusalem as an integral part of the West Bank in line with UN resolutions and the stands of all the nations of the world that refuse to recognize the illegal annexation of Jerusalem by the state of Israel.

The Palestinian authority will work to realize that principle in all its work plans, until the final status of Jerusalem is negotiated in the coming stage.

We understand the letter and spirit of the Declaration of Principles agreement and the Gaza-Jericho agreement in light of the Israeli policy known to us; namely, that settlement activity is to be frozen during the interim period and that settlers will not be permitted to muscle their way into Palestinian land carrying their weapons to duplicate the Ibrahimi Mosque massacre and other such atrocities. We also understand settlement activity founded on occupation and the confiscation of land to be a racist phenomenon that will be phased out ahead of its complete elimination through peaceful means.

We understand clearly that the agreement that has been signed creates new conditions in which the Israeli occupation will never return to our liberated land. We also understand that this is an irreversible march and that this march should continue to move forward.

We also understand the agreement to be the road to real peace between the Palestinian and Israeli peoples, and to full security for both peoples. It is also the means for realizing justice, prosperity, and welfare for all countries of the region, and is a prelude to Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories, and to a just and comprehensive Arab-Israeli peace on all fronts.

As we ask the Israeli Government to commit itself to continue its implementation of the agreement as soon as possible and to go ahead in its withdrawal and dismantling of settlements, we are also fully committed to what the PLO—the representative of all of the Palestinian people—committed itself in this agreement, the Declaration of Principles, the messages of mutual recognition between the PLO and Israel, and all commitments emanating from these agreements. We are also committed to anything that achieves peace and security for the Palestinian and Israeli people, and to resolving all our current and future conflicts through peaceful means as long as Israel is committed to this.

We understand this agreement also as a tool to change the situation of our people from occupation, constant oppression, injustice, and impoverishment to quick economic development, prosperity, dignity, and justice for all Palestinian citizens, and to an effective and honest government, and safeguarding their human rights.

In spite of all our expectations of a brilliant future for our people, we are aware of the great responsibility we shoulder. This agreement is a transitional and partial agreement, and is a limited initial step that does not at all represent the peak of our ambitions and aspirations of our people. The implementation of this agreement will face several difficulties. The occupation ruled militant Gaza Strip for 27 years, and left it in a very difficult situation. It has usurped land, water, and resources. It has destroyed its economy, establishments, and facilities. The Palestinian Authority will shoulder the responsibility in a difficult Arab and international situation in which aid diminished and the burden increased.

The building of the Palestinian Authority is a laborious endeavor. We should depend only on ourselves and the

creative capabilities of our people and their readiness to offer endless sacrifices. We should remind that construction after struggle requires sacrifices and efforts, and that dangers facing our march require the participation of all sons of our people in shouldering the responsibility and leading the Palestinian ship to safe shores. This requires further national unity, rallying behind the PLO, and ensuring the participation of the Palestinians in the West Bank, Gaza, and abroad regardless of their current nationalities or present location.

The Palestinian Authority is aware that it should be a model in its actions, based on democratic principles, the rule of law, respect for rights and basic liberties, including the freedom to worship, political and ideological pluralism, and equality between man and woman.

The Palestinian Authority should follow an open and responsible system, and carry out its task under popular supervision. It should commit itself to the principle of effective participation, mobilization of qualified cadres, building of establishments, human development based on an integrated system that guarantees honesty, efficiency and work development.

Our confidence in our people is limitless and is the foundation on which the Palestine of tomorrow will be built. Our people can give to their homeland Palestine under freedom and independence the same amount of effective contribution in construction and development they have given, together with their Arab brothers, in all countries.

The Palestinian Authority also stresses the Arab and Palestinian identity of our people in the Galilee, the Triangle, and the Negev. It views their steadfastness on their land and insistence on their right to citizenship and full equity and adherence to the homeland a bridge that links them to their people under the canopy of peace which we are now starting to implement between Palestine and Israel.

Our Palestinian people will never forget the virtuous martyrs of the Arab nation who sacrificed their lives for the sake of Palestine. Nor will it forget the suffering of the neighboring Arab states that resulted from the Israeli occupation and the Arab nation's fostering of Palestine and its people during their diaspora and suffering under occupation.

The Palestinian Authority underlines its commitment to the Arab nature of Palestine and its affiliation to the Arab nation, the Arab-Islamic culture, and the varied heritage of the heavenly messages, which consider Palestine a sacred land. It pledges to protect the freedom of worship and the exercise of faith and religious rites for all without any discrimination.

The new Palestine under the Palestinian Authority will proceed from its civilization, religious, and cultural roots. It will be open to this world and committed to its charters, chief of which are the UN Charter, the Arab League Charter, and the conventions on human rights.

As long as occupation remains on part of our territory, the Geneva Conventions and the Hague Treaty should apply since they are the tools of the international law to protect the peoples under occupation. The international legitimacy, and particularly UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, will remain the basis for all future negotiations.

The special relations between Palestine and the neighboring Arab states, particularly Jordan and Egypt, require a special policy which will be translated by the Palestinian Authority into political and economic cooperation agreements to embody and strengthen these special relations.

In implementation of this declared policy, the Palestinian Authority is hereby declaring to the masses of our Palestinian people its working program for the future phase to win their support, backing, and participation in implementing these objectives in this important phase of our people's life.

Nature and Definition of the Authority; Its Powers and Method of Action

—The Authority shall be formed by a decision from the PLO, the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative. The Authority shall be considered an extension of the PLO and derives its legitimacy from the PLO, which also serves as the Authority's political and legal terms of reference.

—The Palestinian Authority is a transitional, phased authority and will fulfill its tasks until the general democratic elections are held in the Palestinian territory. It shall be responsible for implementing the phased program in this transitional phase to execute the national plan and connect the phases to the final solution.

—The Authority shall exercise its executive powers in full. It shall also exercise the legislative powers granted to it on temporary basis until the Council is elected, by which time the executive and legislative branches shall be separated. The Authority shall also supervise the formation of an independent judiciary which will ensure the supremacy and the application of law in a fair and comprehensive way.

—The Authority will carry out its duties in accordance with clear-cut bases and criteria of national commitment, efficiency, integrity, credibility, and democratic and responsible behavior, including clarity of action, frankness, openness, participation, accountability; will respect and safeguard freedoms, basic rights, pluralism; and will work through the specialized organs, institutions, and the structural systems it will set up to run its own affairs by attracting Palestinian skills everywhere and complying with professional and ethical methods.

—The Authority will carry out its program and duties in accordance with binding and approved bylaws.

The Authority's Phased Working Program: Duties and Mechanisms

1. To spread and exercise authority and to shoulder responsibility in the Gaza Strip and Jericho area in accordance with all the approved powers and responsibilities and within the Palestinian definition of rights and duties.

2. To follow up everything pertaining to the authority's responsibility for negotiations on the outstanding issues, to take over authority in the rest of the occupied West Bank, to organize a working program for these negotiations, to attract the required qualified people to run them together with the other multilateral negotiations, and to participate in preparing for the final status negotiations.

3. To prepare for holding the legislative and municipal elections in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and to work to ensure their freedom and fairness.

4. To effectively plan and formulate the structure of the local government, including new structures for the municipal, village, and local councils.

5. To enhance and promote Arab-Palestinian relations, in particular Palestinian-Jordanian and Palestinian-Egyptian relations, and to set up effective mechanisms for mutual issues to guarantee solidarity and actual coordination.

6. To draw up a special program to prepare for the return and absorption of the evacuees.

7. To work for the release of all prisoners and the return of the deportees.

8. To work persistently to formulate legislations, systems, laws, and bylaws for the work of the National Authority's organs and institutions and for organizing the various walks of life in a way that bolsters the bases and principles of democracy, elections, safeguarding citizens' rights and public freedoms, the independence of the judiciary, the separation of authorities, the achievement of equality between men and women, and depending on qualified personnel and equal opportunities to build a free economy and guarantee a principal role for the private sector.

9. To deal with and conclude contracts with international institutions and donor countries regarding cooperation and foreign support for the development program in accordance with labor laws and the valid international procedures.

10. The Authority will review all the previous agreements and commitments pertaining to the Authority and its duties and reject what is useless and endorse what is useful for the general interest within the regulations and laws that will guarantee the Authority's integrity.

11. To reorganize the political life by licensing parties and political movements and to safeguard basic freedoms, including the freedom of opinion, the freedom of party and political affiliation, and the freedom of religion, and to guarantee equality and prevent discrimination.

12. To reorganize and develop the judiciary to ensure its independence and promote it to play its cultural role effectively, and ensure the supremacy of the law in all walks of life.

13. To create and operate a modern financial system characterized by responsibility, openness, accountability, and external auditing to ensure the safety and sound administration of public funds.

14. To complete the setting up of major institutions, such as the monetary authority, the development bank, the civil service department, and the accountancy department.

15. To expedite the implementation of the development program (through cooperation with international organizations) by giving priority to infrastructure projects, creating jobs, and providing basic services to activate production sectors by creating market incentives.

16. To implement the economic emergency plan and mobilize all potentials, resources, and skills of the Palestinian people in this field as well as to concentrate primarily on the Gaza Strip in terms of implementing the emergency plan and giving it priority in order to address its urgent economic needs and issues.

17. To work continuously so as to rationalize, organize, and promote the performance of the executive authority and its administrations as well as to define its powers to achieve development and construction.

18. To reorganize and invigorate service sectors by developing manpower and promoting its level of education and skills.

19. To lay down and implement plans and programs for looking after, training, and absorbing the prisoners, liberated people, and militant cadres; caring for families of martyrs; and adopting a comprehensive national youth program.

20. To lay down mechanisms for implementing the economic, cultural, and technical cooperation agreements the PLO concluded with sisterly states and international organizations.

The Government's Program for the First 100 Days

1. To implement the Cairo Gaza-Jericho accord, particularly with regard to implementation mechanisms.

2. To work swiftly so as to expedite the prevalence of the Palestinian authority over the rest of the West Bank in accordance with the Declaration of Principles.

3. To give special importance to the various aspects of the Jerusalem issue.

4. To prepare for the holding of municipal and legislative elections in the West Bank and Gaza, including the formulation of local administration and the laying down of a new structure for municipal, village, and local councils.

5. To work persistently to formulate legislations, regulations, laws, and bylaws for the work of the National Authority's organs and institutions and for organizing the various walks of life in order to entrench the bases and principles of democracy, elections, safeguarding citizens' rights, public liberties, the judiciary's independence, the separation of authorities, the achievement of equality between men and women, and depending on qualifications and equal opportunities in a way that entrenches a basis for building a free economy and guarantees a role for the private sector.

6. To complete the building of the principal institutions like the monetary authority, the development bank, the civil service department, the auditing department, and the Palestinian judiciary.

7. To carry out the emergency economic plan and to launch a large-scale national activity in all areas by mobilizing all the Palestinian people's scientific, academic, technical, and administrative capabilities everywhere.

8. To draw up and carry out plans and programs for caring for, training, and absorbing the released prisoners and the militant cadres and for caring for martyrs' families and to adopt a comprehensive national program for the youth sector.

9. To draw up mechanisms that will guarantee the implementation of economic, cultural, and technical cooperation agreements signed by the PLO with fraternal and friendly countries and international organizations.

10. To draw up programs for preparing for the return of the evacuees in implementation of the Declaration of Principles.

11. To draw up and implement programs to follow up and care for the Palestinian masses and institutions abroad.

12. To draw up mechanisms for organizing relationship between the National Authority and its term of reference represented by the PLO Executive Committee.

Ministers for 14 National Authority Posts Named

JN2805124094 Amman Radio Jordan in English 1100 GMT 28 May 94

[Text] The PLO has handed out 14 of 22 portfolios in the Palestinian self-rule administration in the Gaza Strip and Jericho area.

Mr. Ahmad Quray', a key player in the secret peace deal with Israel, was named to be in charge of economy and trade. Mr. Samir Ghawshah, who was given the labor and social affairs portfolio, said other ministers in the Palestinian National Authority included chief self-rule negotiator Nabil Sha'th at planning and economic cooperation, and PLO Executive Committee member Muhammad Zuhdi al- Nashashibi at finance.

Mr. Ghawshah said the portfolios were handed out at a meeting in Tunis last night and consultations were continuing on those still to be handed out. He listed the 14 so far distributed as:

1. Economy and Trade, Ahmad Quray', alias Abu-'Ala'
2. Finances, Muhammad Zuhdi al-Nashashibi
3. Planning and Economic Cooperation, Nabil Sha'th
4. Housing, Zakariya al-Agha
5. Communications and Post, 'Abd-al-Hafiz al-Ashhab
6. Education and Teaching, Yasir 'Amr
7. Culture and Arts, Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh
8. Justice, Furayh Abu-Middayn
9. Labor and Workers, Samir Ghawshah
10. Social Affairs, Intisar al-Wazir, alias Umm-Jihad
11. Local Government, Sa'ib 'Urayqat
12. Youth and Sports, 'Azmi al-Shu'aybi
13. Tourism and Monuments, Ilyas Furayj
14. Health, Riyad al-Za'nun

The meetings are due to resume later today.

'Arafat To Retain Interior Minister's Post

LD2805142694 Rabat Moroccan Kingdom Radio Network in Arabic 1300 GMT 28 May 94

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat has decided to retain the post of interior minister for himself. He will also head the forthcoming Palestinian Authority.

The Palestinian leadership is expected to continue its meetings in Tunis today to appoint an information minister, as Hanan 'Ashrawi has turned this post down. [passage omitted]

'Ashrawi Declines Information Portfolio

NC2805164094 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1545 GMT 28 May 94

[Text] Tunis, 28 May (MENA)—Dr. Hanan 'Ashrawi, former spokeswoman of the Palestinian negotiating delegation, has stressed that she will not join the Palestinian National Authority Council, which will administer self-rule in Gaza and Jericho.

In remarks to the MENA correspondent in Tunis, Dr. 'Ashrawi said that she will not accept any position in the National Authority, although Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat has picked her up to be a member of the Council and offered her the information portfolio. She explained that this is because she has obligations to an independent Palestinian body working for Palestinian citizens' rights, which chose her to be its chairman.

Dr. 'Ashrawi pointed out that despite her refusal to join the Council, she attended meetings held by the Council in the past two days because she had been invited to them. She also wanted to participate in drafting the Palestinian National Authority's program so that it would be adequate, comprehensive, democratic, just, and allow for accountability to and revision by the legislative bodies, she added. She hoped that all articles of the Palestinian National Authority's program would be implemented and adhered to by every one.

PLO Fills Authority's Transportation Portfolio

JN2805183394 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 28 May 94

[Report by Muhammad Kurayshan from Tunis]

[Text] At a meeting this afternoon in Tunis, the PLO Executive Committee approved a program for the National Authority that will run the self-rule areas. The PLO Executive Committee is the party to which this authority reports. However, according to a Palestinian official, it is not expected that the Executive Committee will be consulted on every small and significant affair as long as operations go on according to the program that was endorsed.

A new name was added today to the 14 ministerial portfolios announced at a late hour yesterday evening. The new figure is Dr. 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Hajj Ahmad, who was assigned the portfolio of transportation and communications.

The final decision of Dr. Hanan 'Ashrawi, who was offered the portfolio of information, is not known yet. Dr. Samir Ghawshah, member of the Executive Committee and the National Authority, said the final reply of Mrs. 'Ashrawi may be given after her return to Jerusalem.

Abu-Nidal Musallami, member of the Central Committee of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, who is currently in Tunisia, denied categorically to us that it is possible for him to join the National Authority, as was rumored here in the past two days. He said this news was baseless.

This evening's session of the National Authority is expected to be the last. This session is expected to distribute the rest of the ministerial portfolios, which are 22, and to form the Authority, in which 20 out of 24 members, under 'Arafat's leadership, have been appointed so far.

'Urayqat Names Ministers, Lists Tasks

NC3005090294 Cairo Voice of the Arabs in Arabic 0510 GMT 30 May 94

[Telephone interview with Sa'ib 'Urayqat, local government minister in the Palestinian National Authority, in Jericho, by Ashraf 'Abd-al-'Aziz, in Cairo; date not given; from the "Dialogue From Afar" program—recorded]

[Text] ['Abd-al-'Aziz] Dr. 'Urayqat, good morning. We welcome you to the Voice of the Arabs.

['Urayqat] Good morning.

['Abd-al-'Aziz] You have been selected minister of local government in the Palestinian National Authority. Can you tell us about the authority's makeup?

['Urayqat] So far, 15 portfolios have been selected. Of course, the president, brother Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], is the head of the Palestinian National Authority. The posts that have been given out are as follows:

Health	Dr. Riyad al-Za'nun
Education	Yasir 'Amr
Justice	Furayh Abu-Middayn
Finance	Zuhdi al-Nashashibi
Sports and Youth Affairs	'Azmi al-Shu'aybi
Tourism and Antiquities	Ilyas Frayj
Social Affairs	Intisar al-Wazir
Labor	Samir Ghawshah
Housing	Zakariya al-Agha
Culture and Arts	Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh
Post and Telecommunications	'Abd-al-Hafiz al-Ashhab
Transport	'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Hajj Ahmad
Planning and International Cooperation	Dr. Nabil Sha'th
Economy and Trade	Ahmad Quray'

Discussions on filling the other portfolios is continuing, including the Ministry of the Liberated and Injured Affairs [as heard], Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources, Information Ministry, Ministry of Public Works, Ministry of Religious Affairs, Environment Ministry, and Interior Ministry. Appointments to these posts have not been settled yet and deliberations will continue for several days.

['Abd-al-'Aziz] Are there any obstacles to the appointment of the remaining ministers?

['Urayqat] It is not really a question of obstacles. We are keeping two issues in mind. First, we are trying to represent the largest possible sector of our people in the National Authority. Contacts are taking place on several levels for this purpose. We hope that these contacts will produce a broad representation of the political movements in the National Authority. The second issue is that what we are doing now is not as easy as in other countries. We are starting from square one. We are facing huge challenges and difficulties, including the devastated infrastructure left by the Israeli occupation in Jericho and the Gaza Strip and the ruined infrastructure we are expecting to take over when the Israelis evacuate

the other areas. The gaps found in the Palestinian-Israeli Agreement present further difficulties. The challenges and responsibilities are great. This is why we are making further contacts. We need more time so we can include the broadest possible representation in the National Authority while keeping in mind that the people filling the posts must have the necessary qualifications.

['Abd-al-'Aziz] What criteria were used in selecting the Palestinian National Authority's ministers?

['Urayqat] There were several criteria. We had to keep in mind the mingling of Palestinians living abroad with those living inside. As you will notice, several PLO Executive Committee members and people from other PLO institutions have been given portfolios. We believed in the importance of qualifications and experience but also in the appointees' patriotic commitment and their willingness to accept the challenges. We are passing through an interim phase unprecedented in modern times. Above all, we must preserve the Palestinian people's unity at this stage, regardless of where they live.

['Abd-al-'Aziz] Dr. 'Urayqat, in this interim period you are certainly facing immense difficulties that, as you say, are a product of the Israeli occupation of Palestinian territory. What are your working plans for the future?

['Urayqat] As you know, our work began immediately after the occupation troops left. Still, no matter how fast we act, we will remain somewhat behind. We must remember that normal development in the occupied Palestinian territories was effectively halted in 1967. No matter how fast we work and implement our programs, we will remain a little behind because we have a lot to do. We have already done something in the short time that has passed since the end of the occupation of Gaza and Jericho. All government departments are now using documents and letterheads bearing the Palestinian National Authority's stamp. New departments have been established. Some temporary appointments have been made in all the areas. Now that the portfolios have been distributed, every ministry will build up its organizational structure and draw up plans and projects for the first 100 days. We must work quickly now. We want to finish our present work in the next few hours, not days.

['Abd-al-'Aziz] Dr. 'Urayqat, Israel consistently casts doubt on the Palestinian National Authority's actual ability to govern. Israel is saying that the Palestinians were always ruled by others and casts doubt on their ability to govern themselves.

['Urayqat] We are really facing two types of Israeli campaigns. First, media campaigns trying to undermine our efforts—we have been expecting this—and second, Israeli actions that violate the clauses of the agreement or create faits accomplis as in Jerusalem and the settlements. They are expanding the existing settlements. I believe that what we are doing is an experiment that involves factors of success and failure. I can definitely say that if Israel continues its current actions and fails to alter its occupier attitude to a neighborly attitude that involves respecting an adjacent nation that the experiment will fail. So far we have heard only accusations and incitements from the Israeli officials. They are also carrying out conspicuous, blatant violations of the agreement.

['Abd-al-'Aziz] Dr. 'Urayqat, we wish success for the Palestinian National Authority. We hope that the fraternal Palestinian people will fulfill their aspirations in the next stage, now that they have begun to restore their national rights. Thank you very much.

['Urayqat] You are welcome. I would like to say one last word. The current stage is one of planting, not reaping. It is a time to tighten our belts. It is a small step on a long route. We hope, however, that in the next few years our efforts and struggles will be crowned by the establishment of an independent state.

['Abd-al-'Aziz] God willing.

['Urayqat] God willing. Thank you.

Abu-Middayn Views Appointments, Future Plans

JN2905153794 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Arabic 0930 GMT 29 May 94

[Telephone interview with Furayh Abu-Middayn, member of the Palestinian National Authority and head of the justice portfolio, in Tunis, by 'Umar Zaydani in the studio; date not given; from the "With the Midday Events" program—recorded]

[Text] [Zaydani] Furayh Abu-Middayn, justice minister in the Palestinian National Authority: Would you please explain the significance of the appointments announced in Tunis yesterday?

[Abu-Middayn] The appointments that have taken place over the past 48 hours were aimed at meeting the requirements of establishing ministries capable of serving the people in the West Bank in general and in Gaza in particular. There are many outstanding issues, and there is also an administrative, legal, and constitutional vacuum in the occupied territories. Therefore, the government was formed quickly. Even the oath-taking ceremony was postponed so that it can be held on part of the Palestinian land. I believe it will take place in Jericho next month. These appointments, as you know, occurred before the arrival of financial aid. The European countries, as well as other countries, should begin to pump money. Therefore, there should be a ministerial apparatus capable of acting immediately to run daily affairs. As you know, there are crises in the areas of unemployment, financing, and supply. So, what took place was an attempt to fill the vacuum that has resulted from the withdrawal and then to keep the old administrative apparatus. But there should be officials with political weight who refer to the PLO in everything. In brief this is what took place.

[Zaydani] When will the members of the Palestinian National Authority arrive in Gaza and Jericho?

[Abu-Middayn] Most probably they will arrive within a week. Their return was approved, and I believe they will arrive within a week. There are many problems, and people are allowed to go to the inside [self-rule area]. I believe there is a logistical problem in Jericho, and offices are not ready. As for Gaza, there are places and offices, and it can absorb all the brothers coming from outside.

[Zaydani] Furayh Abu-Middayn, why has Yasir 'Arafat not so far succeeded in appointing all the members of the Palestinian National Authority?

[Abu-Middayn] Consultations with some political sides are underway. Although the issue is not a geographical one, there are three or four people from the Gaza Strip to be named. Intensive consultations are underway, and I believe that the most important ministries have been named. We will give ourselves time to appoint the remaining five or six ministers from the [occupied territories]. It is more of a technical than political problem.

[Zaydani] Furayh Abu-Middayn, there is much criticism in Israel. You are talking about ministries and the formation of a government. There is an agreement on a self-rule in Gaza-Jericho First, but you are adopting a political program or a constitution indicating the establishment of almost an independent Palestinian State with Jerusalem as its capital.

[Abu-Middayn] These are future ambitions. We are talking and acting in accordance with the Cairo and Oslo accords. Every one knows this reality. But the Palestinian people have ambitions for which they have offered great sacrifices. These things that annoy Israel are merely abstract and future things. However, we are committed to every detail in these accords. The Palestinian people's future thoughts, however, should not be confiscated. There is an intention to establish a state, and there is an intention to establish a confederation with Jordan. There are many things we should think about from now on. We want to straighten matters out. The State of Israel itself has no constitution and does not recognize fixed borders. Why is Israel not criticized? The absence of a constitution in Israel is a source of fear for the Palestinian side because borders are not defined. These matters should not upset Israel, and I do not believe that Israel has fears more than necessary.

[Zaydani] Furayh Abu-Middayn, you are now in Tunis. Israel has warned the PLO against establishing institutions for the self-rule in East Jerusalem and conducting activities from Orient House, the Economic Planning Council, and the Palestinian Statistics Center. Is the PLO trying to create a fait accompli in East Jerusalem?

[Abu-Middayn] It is Israel which is trying to impose a fait accompli. If Israel had frozen settlement in East Jerusalem, there would have been no problem with the Palestinian side. Jerusalem is a very sensitive issue, and Israel is not committed to accords on freezing settlements. There has been a pledge since President Bush's era that settlement activity would be frozen. At that time, Israel obtained a loan guarantee of $10 billion as support for Israel's economy. It is Israel which makes changes on the ground. There are 150,000 Palestinian citizens in East Jerusalem. These people have rights and the PLO has the right to think seriously about them and to keep them in the political and geographical map. Meanwhile, Israel expands. It extends Jerusalem northward, eastward, and southward. Israel should commit itself. If Israel had announced halting or freezing settlements, there would not have been all this trouble. Rather, this is self-defense than provoking the Israeli side.

[Zaydani] Furayh Abu-Middayn, justice minister in the Palestinian National Authority. Thank you very much.

[Abu-Middayn] You are welcome.

Senior Fatah Official Deplores Self-Rule Appointments

TA3005170294 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 30 May 94 p A4

[Report by Gaza Strip correspondent 'Amira Hess]

[Text] The Palestinian self-rule appointments were made without first establishing appropriate mechanisms necessary for its success. This observation was made yesterday by Hisham 'Abd-al-Razzaq, a senior Fatah official in the Gaza Strip. "I pity the council members, who are forced to keep promises they are unable to keep." 'Abd-al-Razzaq was chiefly referring to the fact that Western countries had pledged donations and loans to the Palestinians, but have so far failed to make any payments. "The world only cares when it sees blood. It acts only when faced with tragic situations. Not only will the agreement fail, it will become a major atomic bomb if the economic situation in Gaza does not improve."

'Abd-al-Razzaq said the council's performance and the success of the Gaza-Jericho First agreement depended on three conditions:

—The Israeli labor market must be open to all Palestinians (and not merely to the 23,000 who had work permits prior to February).

—Donation funds should start arriving at once, and the positions and tasks in the council and the Palestinian self-rule's institutions should be properly distributed.

— "All those who gave all they could and devoted themselves to the Palestinian struggle should be taken into account" when appointments are made.

A month ago 'Abd-al-Razzaq, who spent about 20 years in prison, was mentioned as a possible appointment to the Autonomy Council; this fact was received with great satisfaction in Gaza.

"I learned about my alleged appointment from the media, and personally, I would prefer not to take on this thankless job," he told HA'ARETZ yesterday.

"But the noninclusion of people who were devoted to the struggle is liable to lead to dire consequence." 'Abd-al-Razzaq went on: "When a man is bitter, when he sees no reward to his deeds and sacrifice, he will not settle for personal disappointment. We are talking here about people who devoted their lives to the struggle. These people's disappointment will have a direct impact on the street."

'Abd-al-Razzaq did not answer our question on whether he and his associates have apprised PLO-Tunis of the importance of incorporating field activists in the council. "It would be better for them to reach this conclusion on their own. I cannot believe they do not understand it," he said.

A delegation of about 20 Israeli Arabs, including Dr. Ahmad al-Tibi, visited Gaza yesterday. They met with Nasr Yusuf, the General Security commander, in his office situated in what was the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] division building until two weeks ago. Yusuf told the visitors: "We cannot say we are independent yet, but this is our first step to independence." He called for stronger ties between the two parts of the Palestinian people—"those outside (in the territories) and inside (in Israel)."

Dr. al-Tibi echoed the statement that the agreement was the fist step toward full independence, adding that "we will always say that Jerusalem is the capital of the Palestinian state."

Abu-Zayyad Says Israel To Compromise on Jerusalem

TA2705114694 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1000 GMT 27 May 94

[Text] Palestinian negotiator and East Jerusalem lawyer Ziyad Abu-Zayyad says that Palestinians naturally view East Jerusalem as the capital of the state they hope to establish.

[Begin recording] [Abu-Zayyad] East Jerusalem is a symbol of the Palestinian nationality, of the Arab dignity, and of the Islamic belief and faith. And, of course, it is viewed by us as our future capital.

[Correspondent Mark Weiss] Can you confirm that the PLO is engaged in efforts to continue moving national institutions to East Jerusalem?

[Abu-Zayyad] Well, I think that the issue of Jerusalem is supposed to be on the negotiating table in the second phase of the negotiations, and I believe that this thing will be discussed through negotiations. I don't think that the PLO will move its offices to Jerusalem without negotiations and without coordinating with the other side because at the end we need to find a solution for Jerusalem which will be for the satisfaction of all parties.

[Weiss] Israeli leaders, at the moment at least, insist that Jerusalem will remain the united capital of Israel. Do you believe Israel will eventually compromise on this issue?

[Abu-Zayyad] Well, of course yes. Of course I do, because anyone who wants peace he knows deep in his heart that he cannot have peace and have Jerusalem only under the Israeli sovereignty. [end recording]

Al-Husayni: 'Battle Over Jerusalem' Has Begun

TA3005112194 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1005 GMT 30 May 94

[Text] The Palestinians today decided to increase their political activity in East Jerusalem as the peace process advances. This is their reaction to Israel's expected moves. Faysal al-Husayni, who holds the Jerusalem portfolio in the Palestinian Authority, declared that the battle over Jerusalem has started. Our correspondent Moti Amir reports:

[Begin recording] [Amir] Faysal al-Husayni, the Palestinian Authority minister in charge of Jerusalem, held a news conference at Orient House a short time ago and declared that the battle over Jerusalem has started. He emphasized that in his opinion Israel started this battle in an attempt to limit Palestinian political activity in Orient House and other Palestinian institutions in the city:

[Al-Husayni, in English] We can say that while we are fighting a battle to end the isolation of Jerusalem from the other part of the occupied territories, I believe the Israelis are trying to open a new fight and a new battle against us, so they hope that the world and we will forget about the matter of the closure of Jerusalem and we will fight only for our existence and the existence of our institutions in Jerusalem.

[Amir, translates the above and continues] Al-Husayni said that while the Palestinians are trying to struggle against the isolation of Jerusalem from other areas in the territories—referring to the ongoing closure on the city—Israel is trying to open a new battle against us in order to make the world and us forget the closure on Jerusalem and limit our struggle to the existence of our institutions in Jerusalem.

Al-Husayni noted that the political activity in East Jerusalem preceded the Oslo agreement, and that it drew its strength from the peace process rather than the interim agreement. He emphasized, therefore, that the Palestinians will open more political institutions in East Jerusalem as the peace process advances, because it was agreed that the negotiations over Jerusalem would start only during the last stage of the agreement. [end recording]

Al-Tibi Comments on 'Serious' Financial Situation

JN3005212794 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1800 GMT 30 May 94

[Text] Brother Ahmad al-Tibi, adviser to brother President Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], has said that the financial crisis in the self-rule area is serious and that if donor countries do not begin paying what they had promised to pay, the Palestinian institutions in the Gaza Strip and Jericho will collapse very soon, probably within days.

Fatah Invites Gazan Citizens To Join Movement

NC3005082194 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 27 May p 1

[Text] Gaza, Jerusalem Press—For the first time since its inception outside the occupied territories on 1 January 1965, Fatah—the Palestinian National Liberation Movement—has publicly opened the door of membership to its ranks.

In a statement, Fatah said the need to rebuild its structures is the main reason why it is inviting the Palestinians in the Gaza Strip to join up. Fatah operated as a secret organization until the signing of the Palestinian-Israeli Declaration of Principles on 13 September 1993.

The statement, which was signed by the Fatah Mobilization and Reorganization Department, announced the opening of several offices in the Gaza Strip to enable Palestinians to join the movement.

Rumors on 'Arafat's Illness, Divorce Denied

NC2905144194 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1230 GMT 29 May 94

[Text] Tunis, 29 May (MENA)—Authoritative Palestinian sources have stated that recent rumors circulated by Israeli and foreign media about the deterioration of the health of PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat are untrue and mere lies. The sources said 'Arafat's health is good; in the past few days he has been chairing meetings of the Palestinian National Authority Council.

The sources explained that 'Arafat recently underwent medical tests at the military hospital in Tunis under the supervision of a team of prominent doctors. The tests lasted only two hours, after which 'Arafat resumed his activity. The sources noted that the doctors advised 'Arafat to get some rest. However, this advice is not new. Such advice has been given to him several times in the past because of his hectic activity and frequent travel.

Regarding the rumors circulated by Western and Israeli media that 'Arafat has divorced his wife Suha Tawil, the Palestinian sources said these rumors are untrue and that 'Arafat and his wife are leading a normal life.

The Palestinian sources said that the recent rumors of 'Arafat's illness and his divorce are an attempt to divert attention from the course of peace and the gains which 'Arafat, his negotiators, and the PLO Executive Committee members have achieved.

The sources said that these rumors are part of a plan of provocation and attrition that began with the campaign on 'Arafat following his address at a Johannesburg mosque in which he spoke about a jihad to liberate Palestine. These rumors then turned into a media campaign against 'Arafat and Suha Tawil.

The sources did not rule out that this campaign will continue before and after 'Arafat's return to Jericho.

PLO To Restore Publication of Gazette

LD2905121894 Tunis Tunisian Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1100 GMT 29 May 94

[Text] The PLO has officially decided to restore the Palestinian gazette PALESTINIAN EVENTS [al-waqa'i' al-falastiniyah] immediately after the Palestinian national authority assumes its duties in Gaza and Jericho.

PLO Denies Accord on Deporting Lebanon Refugees

LD3005190094 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1803 GMT 30 May 94

[Text] Tunis, 30 May (KUNA)—The PLO has strongly denied the existence of an agreement with Israel to deport Palestinian refugees in Lebanon to east Europe.

The PLO added in a statement, a copy which has reached KUNA, that it has become necessary to reiterate clearly and publicly that there was no foundation whatsoever to the reports on the deportation of thousands of people to East European counties, to al-Hirmil, to the Biqa' valley, or anywhere else.

The statement went on to say: It is important that our people everywhere, particularly in Lebanon, should know that the PLO did not reach agreement with anyone on the problem of Palestinian refugees in Lebanon or elsewhere.

The statement described such reports as fabrications which could only be hatched by people with bad intentions who fish for rumors in order to use them to the detriment of the Palestinian people's unity. It added that the "problem of refugees is a sacred topic which no one should manipulate. It is furthermore an issue which revolves around the sacred right of return which is cherished by the PLO and every Palestinian."

'Arafat Receives 'Urgent' Message From Yeltsin

LD2705180694 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 27 May 94

[Text] President Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine and chairman of the PLO's Executive Committee, this afternoon received Russian envoy Sergey Virshinin, who delivered an urgent message from the

Russian leadership in reply to the letter President 'Arafat sent to President Boris Yeltsin on recent developments and the contacts under way to ensure an accurate implementation of the agreements in connection with the peace process.

Russian Envoy Talks With Jericho Police Commander

JN2905164494 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Arabic 1430 GMT 29 May 94

[Report by Sa'id Mu'addi about a visit to Jericho by Russian envoy Viktor Posuvalyuk on 29 May—recorded]

[Text] At the Palestinian police headquarters in Jericho this afternoon, the Russian president's special envoy Viktor Posuvalyuk met with the Palestinian police commander in the Jericho area, Brigadier General Isma'il Jabr. The meeting was attended by the Russian ambassador to Israel and head of Preventive Security in the West Bank, Colonel Jibril al-Rujub. The meeting was held in the context of the Russian envoy's Middle East tour. He congratulated the Palestinians on the implementation of self-rule in Gaza and Jericho. Following the meeting he had this to say:

[Begin recording] [Posuvalyuk] I congratulated the Palestinians in the name of President Yeltsin on this first fruit of the Oslo, Washington, and Cairo agreements. We highly appreciate the policies pursued by the PLO and in particular Mr. Yasir 'Arafat. We also highly appreciate the efforts of all those who helped the parties take this first step. As cosponsors of the conference, we must say that we highly appreciate Yitzhaq Rabin government's policy that made it possible for the Palestinians to come to Gaza and Jericho. Russia wants the Palestinians to stick the course of the negotiating process and band together and avert any internal disagreements. This is their first opportunity to take responsibility for their own affairs—an opportunity that they should use and then carry on with the peace process.

[Mu'addi] What kind of aid Russia may extend to the Palestinians?

[Posuvalyuk] The aid President Yeltsin and Yasir 'Arafat discussed in Moscow is now being considered in earnest in Moscow.

[Mu'addi] Did you pass on a message from the Syrian president to Mr. Rabin?

[Posuvalyuk] No. I communicated a message from Yeltsin to Mr. Rabin. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Brig. Gen. Isma'il Jabr, has said that Russia, as cosponsor of the peace process, is continuing to support the peace process.

[Begin Jabr recording] We thank the Russian envoy for visiting Jericho to congratulate us on the launching of the Palestinian national authority. We thank President Yeltsin and all the friendly Russian people. In our meeting, both of us expressed the hope the peace process will continue and that Russia will lend its full support to the Palestinians and the peace process. [end recording]

'Arafat Receives Christopher Message on Erez Attack

LD2805215994 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 21 May 94

[Text] Brother President Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine and chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, this evening received Mr. John McCarthy, U.S. ambassador to Tunisia.

During the meeting, President 'Arafat received from his excellency the U.S. ambassador an important message from Mr. Warren Christopher, the U.S. secretary of state, pertaining to the incident that led to the killing of two Israeli soldiers in the Erez area at the northern exit of Gaza Sector yesterday morning, and the gravity such incident poses to the peace process.

The message also concerns the invitation of Norway, in its capacity as president of the Liaison Committee of Donators to hold an urgent meeting on this coming Monday, 23 May, in Washington.

Secretary Christopher stressed in his message the United States' support for this meeting and its success in order to begin the process of development to consolidate peace.

It is worth noting that the aim of the perpetrators was not only to confront the Israelis who withdrew from Gaza two days ago, but also to confront the Palestinian national security and its direct responsibilities in the Gaza Sector and to its population according to the signed agreement.

Editorial Cites Palestinian Authority on Erez Clash

NC2805203294 Nicosia FILASTIN AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 29 May 94 pp 4,5

[Editorial: "The Agreement Is an Established Fact"]

[Excerpts] With the signing of the "Declaration of Principles" in Washington on 13 September 1993 a new era has dawned in Palestinian-Israeli relations, namely the "era of peace." This era has been characterized by a gradual transformation in Palestinian and Israeli concepts in the direction of achieving a "historic reconciliation." [passage omitted] With the signing of the "Executive Agreement of the Declaration of Principles" in Cairo on 4 May 1994, the era of peace has become a reality. The agreement has become a tool for the two sides to build this era with a spirit of understanding and with common faith that coexistence and mutual and balanced cooperation are the fate of the two peoples throughout this good land, the land of peace. [passage omitted]

Regrettably, the Israeli Government looks as if it is not ready to cope with the Palestinian readiness to expedite the implementation of the agreement. It has begun to speak with a loud voice from all the partners in its cabinet about its doubts about whether the Palestinians will adhere to the agreement. The Israeli Government has offered feeble excuses for these doubts and has begun to adopt stances relying on incorrect and convoluted interpretations of Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat's address in a Johannesburg mosque in which he made remarks about "Jerusalem" and the "agreement." The Israeli Government adopted similar stances when the Palestinian Authority dealt with the issue of the laws and administrative regulations that will be applicable in the autonomous regions. Yet a third time, the Israeli Government raised a hue and cry regarding the Palestinians' weapons following the Erez checkpoint operation on the crossing point between Israel and the Gaza Strip. The Israeli General Staff threatened to reoccupy the Gaza Strip after Rabin ordered the closure of the Strip's border for nine days. He followed this order with another one closing off the Jericho area on the pretext of Israel's security needs.

The excuses on which Israel has based its doubts regarding the Palestinian National Authority's commitment to the agreement are self-defeating. They are good reasons to contest Israel's adherence to the peace process and its commitment to the agreement. The Palestinians have not given up and will not give up Jerusalem. They have affirmed their adherence to their right to claim it for national, historic, and religious considerations. Because the solution of the Jerusalem issue would be the real guarantee of achieving and safeguarding peace, and as a result of the Palestinian stand on Jerusalem, this issue has been considered among the issues that will be put aside for discussion in the subsequent phases of the negotiations. Regarding the operation that was carried out against the Israelis at the entrance to the Gaza Strip, the Palestinian stand toward it has been clear, leaving no room for the Israelis to exploit it. The Palestinian Authority said that the target of the perpetrators of the operation was not only the Israelis but also and actually Palestinian national security and their direct responsibility for the Gaza Strip and those living there in accordance with the agreement.

Regarding the excuse of the Palestinian weapons, the Palestinian Security Command has stated that it is in the process of counting and registering these weapons. As for the Israeli demand that these weapons be collected at a time when Israel is insisting on the settlers' right to keep and carry their weapons in accordance with Israeli laws, this demand is illogical in that it does not achieve equality. Besides, the settlers in the autonomous region and their carrying of weapons must be subject to Palestinian law and not Israeli law. [passage omitted]

Near Shooting Between IDF, Palestinian Police

TA2805191094 Jerusalem Israel Television Channel 1 Network in Hebrew 1800 GMT 28 May 94

[Text] Another incident between the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] and the Palestinian police occurred near the Erez checkpoint yesterday. Our military correspondent Alon Ben-David reports that an argument erupted between an IDF patrol and the Palestinian police, during which the Palestinian policemen cocked their weapons and aimed them at an Israeli officer. The Palestinians claim that the IDF soldiers cocked their weapons first, while the IDF soldiers claim the Palestinians threatened them without cause. The joint liaison and coordination committee launched an investigation into the incident.

Police Chief: Refuge Seekers Not To Be Handed Over

JN2905063794 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0600 GMT 29 May 94

[Text] Major General Nasri Yusuf, commander of the Palestinian Police Force, has stated that his forces will refuse to hand over to Israel alleged perpetrators of operations against the Israeli state who seek refuge in the self-rule areas.

At a news conference in Gaza, he said: We will not permit the Israelis to come and arrest anyone in the sectors that are under our control. Maj. Gen. Nasri Yusuf also said that the Palestinian police will issue arms licenses to the self-rule inhabitants, but will not permit weapons to be carried on the streets as they should be kept at home.

Official Views Security, Development Priorities

JN2905113394 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1800 GMT 28 May 94

[Text] Palestinian National Authority Member Dr. Riyad al-Za'nun has stated that the attainment of security stability in the self-rule areas and the issue of development are two of the authority's priorities in the forthcoming stage.

In statements published in Cairo yesterday, brother Riyad al-Za'nun said that the issue of settlements and settlers is part of the strategy of the Israeli occupation, which seeks to create facts on the ground that hamper the peace process.

He emphasized the importance of the democratic option and said that pluralism and respect for other parties' opinions is the chosen course for the Palestinian's in the next stage.

Brother Riyad al-Za'nun also criticized the Israeli campaign against the Palestinian command's decision to reactivate the laws that were in force before June 1967. He said: It is inconceivable for the Palestinian Authority to maintain the Israeli laws.

National Authority Urges People To Hand Over Weapons

LD2805194194 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 28 May 94

[Text] The national institutions in Gaza Strip today urged citizens to hand over their weapons to the Palestinian National Authority. In a statement, the national institutions have urged anyone with weapons in their possession to hand them over to the Palestinian authority in order to safeguard the Palestinian people's higher interests, to consecrate the principle of the rule of law, to make citizens feel safe and secure, and to prevent the use of such weapons by the sons of the people for the sake of the people's national unity.

Police Recruitment Offices Open in Gaza Strip

TA2905191994 Jerusalem Israel Television Channel 1 Network in Hebrew 1700 GMT 29 May 94

[Text] Some 7,500 youths were registered at police recruitment centers in the Gaza Strip today. Shlomi Eldar reports that five such centers were opened today and thousands have been swarming to them since the early morning hours. The centers will be open all week, and 4,000 policemen will be selected. Those selected will undergo training at existing facilities in the Gaza Strip, including a beach facility which used to be the Ansar 2 prison camp. To date there are about 2,600 policemen in the Gaza Strip. Tomorrow they will be joined by about 250 additional policemen from Algeria.

Few are leaving Judaea and Samaria for work within the Green Line, and a mass demonstration was staged in Janin today against the continued closure. Many residents paraded the streets, complaining that the prolonged closure has caused grave economic distress, and that many are unemployed and have no means of livelihood. Some of the participants even criticized the PLO leadership which, so they claim, deals with Gaza and Jericho only and has abandoned the remaining residents of the territories.

[Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 1800 GMT on 29 May adds that "in a commitment to the Gaza Strip Palestinian police, Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] is trying to stop acts of revenge and killing against those who collaborate with Israel. Correspondent Nisim Qeynan reports that this commitment was published in a manifesto disseminated by Hamas in the Gaza Strip."]

Gaza Police Commander on Collaborators, Hamas Contacts

NC3005103394 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 27 May pp 1, 23

[Text] Gaza—Maj. Gen. Nasr Yusuf, commander of the Palestine National Security Forces in the Gaza Strip, has stated that the Palestinian National Authority will arrest any person who collaborated with Israel or who will do so in the future outside the framework of the authority, provided that there is sufficient evidence.

Asked about Israel's stance on the arrest of agents who collaborated with it, Maj. Gen. Yusuf said in an exclusive interview that "this is an internal Palestinian affair. No one can compel us to pardon or to arrest anyone." He added that what we are doing on this matter is similar to what any other national authority in the world would do.

On the stance of the National Security Forces in the event a joint patrol comes under fire by Palestinian opponents, he said his forces have security duties that they will implement regardless of the circumstances because our people support any measure that provides them with security and stability.

Maj. Gen. Yusuf disclosed that the authority is holding constant contacts with the Hamas leadership, noting that there have been good results so far and that he is optimistic that an agreement will be reached.

He said that he does not oppose peaceful demonstrations but that in the next stage such things will require a permit.

On the other hand, Maj. Gen. Yusuf said the main problem facing his forces is the shortage of funds, which the donor nations have promised to give to the Palestinian National Authority to pay the salaries of the security forces. He said: "They have given nothing, other than the vehicles provided by the United States."

Maj. Gen. Yusuf said a 300-man police force is expected to arrive in the Gaza Strip today to join the current force estimated at 2,600 men. He added that 120 men from the Fatah Hawks have been merged with the national security forces in view of their security expertise and knowledge of the Gaza Strip.

Commander on Role of Police, Ties With Opposition

NC3005133094 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1220 GMT 30 May 94

[Text] Rafah, 30 May (MENA)—Major General 'Abd-al-Razzaq al-Mahayidah, commander of the Palestinian forces in Rafah, has affirmed that the Palestinian National Security Forces will not be an obstacle in the way of democracy and that the objective of their presence in the autonomous areas is to support preventive security and preserve public security.

Al-Mahayidah said that it is each person's right to express his political opinions and views in absolute freedom and that the relationship with the Palestinian opposition will be a serious one governed by understanding out of concern for the bonds of kinship and strong ties between the various denominations of the people.

In another development, the Palestinian National Security Command issued a decree on recruiting further

members of the police force from inside the autonomous areas in Gaza and Jericho. Applications to join the police force began being accepted the day before yesterday.

It is expected that all parts of the Palestinian National Authority will be ready to operate this week.

PLO Guerrillas Walk Out of Police Training

NC3005135494 Paris AFP in English 1335 GMT 30 May 94

[By Sakher Abu Eloun]

[Text] Gaza City, Gaza Strip, May 30 (AFP)—PLO guerrillas who joined the new police force stormed out of their training camp on Monday [30 May] demanding guns to protect themselves, one of their leaders told AFP.

The walkout came after suspected Israeli agents in a car chased four of the men from the Hawks, the armed wing of the mainstream PLO group Fatah.

"Out of 90 Hawks who began training four days ago, 70 have left," said Rajih Abu-Sita, one of the Hawk leaders.

"We are returning to the Hawks, to protect ourselves and defend ourselves if attacked."

An AFP correspondent met several Hawks as they quit the camp in the former Israeli base known as Ansar II on the Gaza City seafront.

Abu-Sita and his cousin 'Amr killed a Jewish settler on the Gaza Strip in March 1993 and were wanted by the Israelis before autonomy began at the start of this month.

"We can't go on," Rajih said. "This is not a camp but a bazaar. There is no security, neither inside nor outside the camp. We don't even have any weapons.

"On Sunday when we went into town armed men in a Peugeot 504 chased us. We were lucky to escape."

The two cousins sent a letter Sunday to Palestinian police chief General Nasr Yusuf to explain why they were leaving.

"There is no security in the camp," they wrote. "We are still hunted by Israeli intelligence services even if there is an agreement between Israel and the PLO.

"We want protection and weapons because we still feel we are in danger."

Rajih said: "Rabin has left certain elements here to kill us."

He also complained that the training camp was supposed to be solely for former Hawks.

"We were surprised to find about 100 other recruits who did not belong to our group, who were not wanted by the Israelis and who had never even carried out any political activities.

"We want to be soldiers for our country and for Fatah," he added.

Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin also upset the new recruits with a hardline statement Friday that Israel vetted all the new policemen.

"No Palestinian policemen from the territories has been recruited without our agreement and we have never stopped checking that is the case."

Rabin said Israel had vetoed the names of several hundred Palestinians who had been due to join the police from abroad.

He was reacting to Hebrew press reports that the Abu-Sita cousins had enlisted in the new force, which is about 4,000 strong and is due to swell to 9,000 men.

"What we say to Rabin is, 'You want to catch all those who are wanted because they have killed settlers and collaborators. But who killed all our martyrs? You have to answer that question,'" Rajih said.

APF Statement Says Police 'Repressive Tool'

JN3005205094 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 1630 GMT 30 May 94

[Text] The Alliance of Palestinian Forces [APF] issued a political statement following a recent meeting during which the APF discussed political and security developments in the Palestinian arena. The conferees examined some of the serious measures undertaken by the corrupt Oslo team in the context of the Gaza-Jericho agreement.

In its statement, the APF said that the suspect role assigned to the so-called Palestinian police has shown them to be a repressive tool in the hand of the Zionist occupation. As part of the practical arrangements agreed on between the Oslo team and the Zionist enemy, a number of those affiliated with the Zionist enemy agencies made statements on disarming our people and their militant forces and on opening prisons for our people's honorable strugglers. In this context, they have started by detaining Hani 'Abid, an Islamic Jihad member, and pursuing our people's strugglers who reject the Oslo agreement and all its appendices, chapters, and objectives.

The APF statement adds: We in the APF warn of the gravity of this dangerous behavior which will lead to detrimental results, sedition, and internal strife. We urge the masses of our people and their militant forces to firmly confront the practices of this team which has violated the will of our people, and its agencies which have been proved to be dens designed to absorb agents and spies linked to the Zionist enemy.

Hamas Claims Murder of 2 'Collaborators'

TA2805153094 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1500 GMT 28 May 94

[Text] Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] today claimed responsibility for killing two Palestinians in Gaza City whom it accused of cooperating with Israel. Their bodies were found last night by Palestinians on their way to prayers. 'Izz-al-Din al-Qassam said they had abducted and murdered the men. Palestinian police are investigating the incident.

Hamas Temporarily Stops Killing Collaborators

NC2905185494 Paris AFP in English 1742 GMT 29 May 94

[Text] Gaza City, Gaza Strip, May 29 (AFP)—The Muslim fundamentalist group Hamas said Sunday [29 May] it would temporarily stop killing people suspected of collaborating with Israel, but the Palestinian police said the pledge did not go far enough.

Hamas said it had decided "to halt, for the time being, the pursuit of agents and their execution, in order to allow the Palestinian police to carry out their duties in this area."

But it warned that "the role of agents is turning more and more dangerous for the mujahedeen (Islamic fighters), who consider themselves in a constant struggle against the (Israeli) occupation forces."

A Palestinian police official, declining to be named, told AFP that the pledge was not enough.

"They have not handed over the culprits of Friday's executions and we are going to launch a search for them ... not because it is Hamas but because they have broken the law and killed people living under our authority," he said.

The police earlier ordered Hamas to hand over militants who killed two Palestinians found hanging from electric pylons, in the first such murders since self-rule was launched this month.

"We have officially asked Hamas leaders to hand them over so we can try them. It is as much in their interest as it is in ours that they do it," said police chief Nasir Yusuf.

He said it was unacceptable that Hamas act as "prosecutor, lawyer, judge and hangman."

Control for security on the autonomous Gaza Strip and the self-rule enclave of Jericho has passed to the Palestinian police under the terms of the Israel-PLO autonomy deal, an agreement which Hamas opposes.

Hamas Refuses To Hand Killers Over to Police

NC3005162794 Paris AFP in English 1528 GMT 30 May 94

[Text] Damascus, May 30 (AFP)—The Muslim fundamentalist group Hamas on Monday [30 May] refused to hand over militants who killed two suspected collaborators in Gaza to the Palestinian police.

It charged that the two men had been "planning to assassinate Hamas and Fatah leaders to stir up trouble and provoke fighting" between the fundamentalists and the PLO's main group.

"We refuse to hand over our militants and hope that the Palestinian police can carry out its role of pursuing collaborators. If so, it will save Hamas having to do it," the group said in a statement released in Damascus.

It warned police chief Nasr Yusuf to handle "this delicate situation" with care "so as not to provoke reactions which would not be in the interests of our people and their unity."

On the autonomous Gaza Strip, Yusuf issued a stern warning to Islamic fundamentalists after Hamas executed the two suspects on Friday and demanded that the killers be handed over.

Hamas announced Sunday it would stop killing collaborators, but only temporarily to see if the police could do its job.

Almost 1,000 Palestinians have been murdered by fellow Palestinians since the intifadah erupted in December 1987, but Israel maintains that fewer than 40 percent were collaborators.

Hamas Official Denies Pelletreau Claims of Rift

JN3005090894 Amman AL-MAJD in Arabic 30 May 94 p 1

[Text] Commenting on statements by Robert Pelletreau, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs, on a rift within the Hamas Movement, Hamas official Muhammad Nazzal said: I defy Pelletreau to name one Hamas leader inside or outside the occupied territories who is working to divide the movement, or who has deviated from its consensus of rejecting participation in the Palestinian authority or in the self-rule farce.

Nazzal said that the U.S. official's statements are sheer fabrications and part of the false reports claiming that the 'Arafat leadership has succeeded in gaining the support of several Hamas leaders in the occupied territories for the Palestinian Authority, thus deviating from the movement's constants of rejecting the capitulatory march and abiding by armed struggle and protracted Jihad until all the Palestinian national soil is liberated.

Pelletreau has claimed that a rift recently developed within Hamas in the occupied territories over participation in the Palestinian National Authority.

Jericho Closure Said Due to Large Hamas Rally

TA3005184494 Jerusalem Israel Television Channel 1 Network in Hebrew 1700 GMT 30 May 94

[Report by Yoram Kohen]

[Text] A closure was imposed today on Jericho. Major General Ilan Biran, commander of the Central Command, decided to ban Israelis from entering the city until further notice. Our Army affairs correspondent Alon Ben-David reports that Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] was scheduled to hold a rally in the city this evening and the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] was worried about possible terror attacks. Earlier today Hamas staged a few processions in the city. Yoram Kohen reports:

[Begin Kohen recording] Today's procession in Jericho was a first test. Most participants came from outside the city, from Gaza and the West Bank. Hamas leaders in the territories sent hundreds of supporters to Jericho, seemingly to test the patience of the Palestinian police commanders. A similar demonstration was held recently in Gaza.

The Hamas rally started with a procession bearing provocative religious symbols, Koran books, and green flags, and marchers proudly chanting: 'Izz-al-Din al-Qassam is our mentor. The Palestinian police commanders explained their decision to allow Hamas to hold the rally in Jericho's big mosque by saying that theirs was a democratic society which did not shut people up, perhaps out of a wish to avoid confrontations.

Such a concentration of Hamas members in the self-rule area led Maj. Gen. Biran to take precautions. Consequently, he banned Israelis from entering the city until further notice. [end recording]

Hamas Stages First Demonstration in Jericho

NC3005202294 Paris AFP in English 1911 GMT 30 May 94

[Text] Jericho, West Bank, May 30 (AFP)—Around 2,000 supporters of the Muslim fundamentalist group Hamas marched through the autonomous enclave of Jericho on Monday [30 May], in the first such demonstration since Palestinian self-rule.

Palestinian sources said the marchers, who converged on the town from around the Israeli-occupied West Bank, went on to hold a public meeting in a mosque.

Brandishing the Koran, the Moslem holy book, and waving flags, they called for the "liberation of the whole of Palestine." However, they steered clear in their slogans of attacking the Israeli-PLO autonomy deal, which Hamas rejects.

Dozens of Palestinian policemen stood by, but there were no incidents, the sources said. It was the first Hamas demonstration here since the police took over Jericho in mid-May.

The Israeli army closed off access to the enclave for Israeli civilians to avoid incidents, military sources said.

Police Chief Urges Hamas To Hand Over Weapons

TA3105050994 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0400 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] Shots were fired last night on the Jewish settlement of Kfar Darom in the center of the Gaza Strip. The gunfire came from a group of cars with Palestinian license plates which were traveling on the main road toward Khan Yunus. Kfar Darom residents returned the fire. No one was hurt on either side. The joint Israeli-Palestinian patrol arrived on the scene to investigate the incident.

In the territories last night, a Molotov cocktail was thrown at an Israeli bus near the settlement of Shavey Shomron. The bomb exploded on the road, no one was hurt.

The Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] terrorist organization has announced it intends to form a political party in the territories, but at the same time the Hamas spokesman, speaking in Amman, denied that a representative of the organization, Sa'id Balal, has agreed to become a member of the Palestinian National Authority. If Balal has chosen to take part in the authority, said the spokesman, it was on his own initiative, not as a representative of Hamas.

The Palestinian police chief in Gaza, Nasr Yusuf, has called on Hamas members to stop their killing attacks and hand over their weapons. In a leaflet distributed in Gaza, the police also asked Hamas to turn in the people responsible for killing two Palestinians suspected of cooperating with Israel.

In other developments, about half the Fatah Hawks police recruits have quit, claiming there were informers among the conscripts. And last night some 260 Palestinian policemen entered Gaza from Egypt.

Jordanian Authorities Release Abu Nidal Group Members

JN2905181294 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 29 May 94

[Text] Fatah-the Revolutionary Council group, led by Abu-Nidal [Sabri al-Banna], has announced that Jordan has released some of its members who were accused of involvement in the assassination of a Jordanian diplomat, Na'ib al-Ma'ayitah, in Beirut in January. The group, however, did not specify the number of the detainees who were released.

The Jordanian police on 25 February announced that it arrested 25 members of Fatah-the Revolutionary Council within the context of this case.

Algeria

Seventy Soldiers Said Massacred in Barracks

PM2705152094 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 27 May 94 pp 1, 4

[Report by Hasan Sandarusi: "Algeria: 70 Military Slaughtered in Sidi Bel Abbess Barracks"]

[Excerpt] Washington, Algiers, AL-HAYAH—The United States yesterday expressed deep concern over the deterioration of conditions in Algeria, reiterating its support for making "serious political changes." This coincides with information AL-HAYAH has received in Algiers to the effect that the security situation has witnessed rapid deterioration in various parts of the country, and that 70 of the military have been slaughtered in a massacre carried out in an Army barracks in Sidi Bel Abbes province (west of the capital).

Reliable Algerian sources told AL-HAYAH that military units supported by aircraft moved the day before yesterday to the suburbs of Tlemcen, west of the capital, following information they had received about the presence in the area of armed groups which participated in the attack on the barracks on the eve of 'Id al-Adha and seized large quantities of arms. Eyewitnesses told AL-HAYAH that they had seen helicopters moving between the barracks and Oran Hospital.

The reliable Algerian sources said that two officers from the barracks are thought to be implicated in the attack. It is believed that they assumed the task of impairing the guards' arms (by emptying their magazines) before the gunmen launched their attack on the barracks, massacring the soldiers. About 70 soldiers were slaughtered with cold steel. Soldiers who escaped the massacre said the two officers fled with the gunmen.

A week after the operation, security forces succeeded in locating the gunmen's whereabouts and are currently besieging them in Tlemcen suburbs. [passage omitted]

Security Services Kill 23 Members of Armed Groups

LD2805231494 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 2200 GMT 28 May 94

[Text] The security services announced today the killing of several members of armed groups during the last three days, more details with our correspondent:

[Unidentified correspondent] In a communique issued today, the security services said that 23 members of armed groups were killed during the last three day in Tlemcen, Boumerdes, Tizi Ouzou, and Blida. The same source said that during operations carried out by security forces considerable amounts of arms were seized. These included shotguns, Kalashnikov assault rifles, machineguns, ammunition, and other equipment.

The communique said that during some of those operations five members of the security forces were slightly injured in the cross- fire with members of the armed groups in Bouguerra in Blida Province.

Another communique said that three secondary school girls, who were working as contact agents for an armed group, were arrested in the (Wannouaa) region in M'sila Province on Wednesday [25 May]. The same source said that a machine-gun, subversive documents, and a list containing security vehicles' license numbers were recovered following a search in one of the girls' abode.

Investigation revealed that the three pupils played the role of informer under the influence of their mathematics teacher.

The communique said that search was under way for this teacher who is still on the run. The three girls appeared before a court on Thursday.

Death Sentences Issued Against El Askri Jamal Group

LD2905180794 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 29 May 94

[Text] Algiers Special Judicial Council today issued 5 life imprisonment sentences and 13 death sentences in absentia against the group of El Askri Jamal.

The life imprisonment sentences include El Askri Jamal and Charratti Yakhlef, a prominent member of the dissolved Islamic Salvation Front.

The same council issued death sentences in absentia against Chaboutti Abdelkader, Makhloufi Said, and Baa Ezzeddine. These are associated with the group which carried out the bombing of Houari Boumediene Airport in August 1992.

Palestinian Policemen Depart for Gaza Duty

LD2805220394 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 28 May 94

[Text] This morning a new group of Palestinian police left Algeria by air.

In implementation of the articles of the self-rule agreement, which stipulate for the creation of a Palestinian police force in the two areas of Gaza and Jericho, a new group of Palestinian police left at dawn today by air from Laghouat military airport, heading for Rafah on the Egyptian-Palestinian border.

Brigadier-General Fodil Saidi, commander of the Fourth Military Zone, was at the farewell of the group.

This group is composed of 256 soldiers, most of them are young, who received training at Algerian military academies.

This group will enter the Palestinian territories tomorrow, Sunday evening, to be deployed in the city of Gaza.

Egypt

Mubarak Addresses National Dialogue Committee

NC2905094994 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 0704 GMT 29 May 94

[Speech by President Muhammad Husni Mubarak at the opening of the National Dialogue Drafting Committee Conference at the Presidential Palace—live]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Brothers and sisters, members of the National Dialogue Drafting Committee Conference: For the first time in a half century, the whole world, and those of us in Egypt, feel that we are going through one of the most delicate and difficult stages of transformation in the lives of countries and their people. For 50 years, the world has lived under constant balance of political, economic, and military force. International relations, alliances, and affiliations were organized in a specific manner and there were patterns which drew the lines between friends and adversaries and between common and discordant interests. We then found ourselves, along with all the countries in the world, with the balances of force changed: Enmity turned into friendship and those boundaries were obliterated. Ideologies and concepts which governed half the world for decades changed. Countries which were noted for their domestic stability and leadership abroad were buffeted by strong winds of chaos and conflict.

Inasmuch as the trends toward grouping grew in numerous countries, trends toward fragmentation and division prevailed in others. We found ourselves in the welter of a world living through a stage of difficult transition in political and economic systems and international relations. We in Egypt are not living in isolation from what is going on around us, but at the same time we are rebuilding our homeland during one of the most delicate stages of our historical development, a stage that the world perhaps has not seen for centuries. We are seeking to consolidate stability in a world buffeted by disturbance, violence, and the logic of force. We are struggling to build a strong and prosperous economy in a world where the level of inflation, unemployment, and recession is rising. We are choosing a sound course of democratic practice in a world that calls for defense of freedoms while daily it does the contrary, prompting people to lose confidence in its credibility. We are keen on returning security and stability to the Egyptian man and providing him with livelihood and staples at a time when an unholy force of evil killers and agents ally to strike the Egyptian man's life, livelihood, and stability.

Nevertheless, we are going through our current stage of great transformation amid domestic challenges, regional signs of concern, and the decline of negative aspects in foreign relations have failed to weaken our resolve, take us back, or prevented us from forging ahead to rebuild modern Egypt, an Egypt that is more stable and secure, more plentiful and prosperous, more cohesive and harmonious, and loftier and leading.

The true motive behind my national call to all the sons of Egypt was my deep awareness of the need to provide basic requirements of national rebuilding in Egypt, whether these requirements were political entity, economic structure, social establishment, or cultural values. My goal was to prepare the groundwork so people could launch initiatives, hold dialogues, and exchange ideas. Also so intellectual and academic societies could engage in a comprehensive national dialogue to review the achievements of the past years, to evaluate present accomplishments, and to draw a new map for our sons and future generations at the outset of the 21st century. These ideas were the goals to which I sincerely aspired when I initiated the appeal for a national dialogue. It was not a call for a temporary meeting to merely submit papers and then file them away. It was a call to work out a sound and developed scientific formula to address all aspects of life in Egypt in the 21st century and to specify priorities for national action in light of the requirement of comprehensive development of the Egyptian society in the political, economic, social, and cultural fields. It was a call for a formula to orchestrate the Egyptian resources with all their significance in the regional and international arenas and to safeguard our national security and defend the holy land.

Since our intrinsic potential is the true mainstay of our national security, our sound and enlightened moves in the foreign spheres are steered to serve our national interests. The planned management of our international relations monitor events and developments, adjust to changes, increase our friends, contain adversaries and enmities, and deepen cooperation and common interests. In foreign relations, we believe in, and seek, fair peace and firmly confront and deter any danger to our national interests no matter the source.

Brothers and sisters, in my speech before the People's Assembly, I outlined the following mainstays for national dialogue: first, the sound understanding of the challenges facing Egypt; second, the meticulous perception of the circumstances that govern our regional and external relations; and third, the clear-cut delineation of the priorities of the national action in the next stage.

In my speech on Labor Day, I called for crystallizing the objectives which should be expected from the dialogue. I was quick to warn against repercussions that might surface as a result of the instigators' schemes. These schemes are aimed at making the dialogue deviate from its noble goals by mixing political action with religion so that instigators would not be brought into account.

I affirmed that the major objective behind this dialogue is to ensure a basic condition of democracy without slipping into the chaos of ideas or conflict of stances

which could threaten the supreme interests of the homeland. I also explained that the sound concept of democracy does not mean that there are no boundaries between the legitimate law-abiding forces and the illegitimate forces that provoke acts of violence and challenge law.

I presented our specific concept of these legitimate forces, because they are the forces which seek to establish a clear-cut accord among themselves. The objective of this accord is to safeguard the homeland's interests and to ensure that democracy will never turn into disorder that would cripple the society's energies.

I also explained our concept of our democratic experience. I said that democracy is not a mold or a form that could be applied equally everywhere. Every country has its own circumstances, conditions, and experiences that must be taken into consideration. I said that democracy is the course of our life and our irrefutable choice.

I also made it a point to outline the following principles of this dialogue:

1. This dialogue must focus on the homeland's basic issues whether they are economic, political, or social issues;
2. It must be above party interests;
3. It must be based on a scientific and realistic concept that would represent the priorities of the national action in Egypt;
. It must carefully take into account the homeland's energies and potentials; and
5. This dialogue must never risk the homeland's security and stability.

Brothers and sisters, hence, my honest call was made for the sake of conducting a responsible national dialogue. Stability is a guarantee for democracy and there can be no stability in a society overwhelmed by infighting and division.

Brothers and sisters, if the freedom of opinion and the interaction of views constitute the essence of dialogue, the participation that is aware of the homeland's rights and which is abiding by legitimacy, its constitutional duties, and national and political principles, will represent the starting point in formulating the scientific concept of future Egypt.

Broad participation is the sure guarantee for a rich dialogue. It is also the guarantee for the usefulness and effectiveness of such a dialogue. However, such participation cannot take place without certain basiss to govern its action or criteria to control its tempo. The most important criterion for participation is adherence to the political standards adopted by Egyptian society. These standards have taken root in this society's national conscience and mind. They are the result of this society's historical heritage and experience over hundreds of years and the fruit of its national struggle in its contemporary and modern history, dictated by the nature of the structure of its civilization and geography when, on the area of this ancient homeland, it first established a society that did not know racial, religious, sectarian, or class discrimination. This is a society in which various groups of its citizens have been united since the dawn of time, a society in whose melting pot all trends and religions were fused and held together by the Egyptian weave. There is no room for sectarianism, nor is there any place for fanaticism or class distinction.

The second most important criterion for this participation is adherence tc the constitutional standards which the Egyptian people unanimously agreed upon when they adopted a republican and democratic system as a style and course for their political life. This system enables the people to rule themselves, gives the law sovereignty, protects freedoms, and sanctifies duties.

The third criterion for participation consists of the national standards which are represented by the strength of belonging and loyalty to this homeland; second, the depth of commitment to the goals and significance of public responsibility; and third, the performance of duties to the same extent as adherence to rights.

These, brothers and sisters, are the criteria for participation in the dialogue and the political, constitutional, and national standards. There are no restrictions other than what the homeland and society have approved through their historic and cultural experiences. The agreements of the nation, which it has reached through all its actions in its modern history, cannot be violated. The spirit of consensus in the Egyptian nation was a law based on justice, freedom based on commitment and responsibility, a right backed by duties, and a national, social, and cultural struggle which cannot be forfeited or ceded.

Within this framework, the national call for participation in the dialogue was made. We made this call to all social forces and economic, social, and cultural institutions that respect legitimacy and adhere to the constitution and law, so that opinions interact and our internal political and social reality is explored to deduce the characteristics of the future. We also made this call so that these forces and institutions can learn from the experiences of others, pinpoint the strengths of other societies and adopt them for themselves; and so that they can see the obstacles and stumbling blocs in the marches of other peoples, thus avoiding them and keeping themselves and Egypt away from such obstacles.

The national call was directed at the national and legitimate forces for them to take the initiative to produce action, not be on the receiving end. The future of Egypt is, first and foremost, the trust of its sons, citizens, and generations. It is not a monopoly of the present generation or the ruling party.

The national call was addressed to the professional institutions and unions that operate within the framework of legitimacy, and to the research centers, intellectuals, inventors, and the masses of educated people in Egypt. It was not merely a call for participation in decision-making, or formulating a program, or polling an opinion; it was a call for stimulating energies, driving

determination, inspiring the minds, and arousing the conscience to give serious and responsible thought to the Egypt of tomorrow and the future.

Dear brothers and sisters, all of the above are elements and parties to the dialogue who are taking part in it by expressing their views, offering advice, contributing experience, and voicing their opinion. There are no boundaries separating them from telling the truth. There is nothing to prevent them from being totally frank. Participation with such logic, with this objective, under these conditions, and in this way could in fact be the correct interpretation of a democratic political life in Egypt. Expanding participation based on these criteria and proceeding from these starting points provides the proper guarantees for a national dialogue in which the sides will take part within the constitutional, political, and national regulations. The unions and all the forces of Egyptian society capable of thinking, expressing opinion, holding discussions, and contributing to society will take part in this dialogue.

Since this is the nature of this dialogue and its various issues, its various criteria and standards, and the sides participating in it, the committee tasked with preparing the general conference is responsible for translating all this into definite concepts and detailed plans of action. Responsibilities and duties entrusted upon this preparatory committee revolve round many axes. The first axis is to define the legitimate national forces within the political, economic, social, and cultural frameworks that will be participating in the dialogue and which operate under the umbrella of the law and constitution. The second axis is to choose the issues and subjects around which the dialogue should revolve. The third axis is to set and organize the style of action during the conference, be that through holding general sessions, or forming major committees or specialized working groups. In other words, the preparatory committee will define the organizational form of the general conference and the rules governing its measures and discussions. It will also make recommendations at the conclusion of the conference. The preparatory and drafting committee will present its recommendations to the general conference during its first session.

Brothers and sisters, there will always be a standard governing all other standards and topping them all. It controls all other criteria and rises above them. This standard is, above all, a sense of belonging to this homeland within its borders, to its history and its heritage; it is a desire to protect its security from evil and its citizens from every harm. I am very hopeful and confident that there will be a great national response in the form of a national call for open dialogue to map out Egypt's future and chart its years ahead.

The source of my hope and confidence for this national response is what I have sensed and seen over the past few months. I have noticed large-scale discussion in all clubs and forums, in the media, and in research centers of the philosophy of dialogue and its concepts, its objectives and various issues, its requirements and usefulness, and the various parties participating in it. Irrespective of how correct or incorrect, real or fake, honest or dishonest things are, we have before us today an open book with as many trends as the number of writers who have contributed to it and as many opinions as those who have produced it. Today, we have the responsibility of a historic choice, because today we choose for ourselves inasmuch as we choose for the coming generations. We choose for the present inasmuch as we choose for the future.

The start of a national dialogue today is our way of increasing knowledge of the homeland's concerns and mapping out the road to achieve its objectives. The start of a national dialogue today will strengthen confidence in our abilities to govern our own destiny and to plan the programs that will transfer modern Egypt from a rising, developing country into an advanced state taking a leading position among other states in the new world order, the features and landmarks of which are still being shaped and reshaped every day. The start of a national dialogue today will define concepts, control standards, and draw up roles and missions for the homeland and its citizens. Through it, amity will prevail and ideas and minds will meet to promote this faithful country.

Brothers and sisters, this in my opinion is the significance and purpose of the dialogue and these are its aims and objectives. With all sincerity I frankly tell you that the call for dialogue was not a reaction to a national dilemma imposed by circumstances—never—or necessitated by modern pressures. Nor was it a transient move to conglomerate parties into what is being called a national front or national coalition dictated by the requirements of what is being termed reconciliation during this sensitive stage we are going through. National dialogue is a sincere national call that rises above partisanship and parties and in which the state, the government, the people, and the whole Egyptian society will melt into one system of national action for Egypt.

I frankly tell you that from this purely Egyptian perspective our national dialogue is different from other dialogues in its nature, goals, and motives. Our dialogue derives its roots from a nation that is the best of nations, whose cultural identity has never been erased and whose unique character throughout history has never been lost. God has given this nation a true historic feeling, thanks to which Egypt has never made a mistake in choosing the correct course at the correct time. Our dialogue will grow and prosper in a society whose forces have not fought with each other and whose elements have never quarreled. This society has lived on the banks of the great Nile in unity, cohesion, and harmony. From the political and cultural points of view, it is futile to make comparisons between what is taking place in other societies and what is happening in Egypt when we open a new chapter of new dialogue. The chapters or stages of this dialogue among the Egyptian people have never stopped.

The launching of this dialogue begins the regulation of the movement of society in Egypt for the next years. It will help us avoid the past shortcomings that hindered the march of society and will glorify the present achievements that broke barriers and unleashed capabilities. The national call for a comprehensive dialogue on the future of national action in Egypt has its perils, significance, and results. But we must always realize that the dialogue has three objectives: first, to preserve the security and stability of this homeland; second, to establish a balance between the citizens' ambitions and the potentials of the homeland; and third, to secure broad participation in the process of finding solutions to the problems of the society and in decision-making. These three basic objectives represent a broad framework comprising the issues and priorities for national action.

In our contemporary world, there are three indispensable elements which nations and homelands need to be strong: national and social solidarity; economic and material potential; and scientific and cultural progress. If these elements are lacking, or if any of them collapses, states blunder and they stumble in their steps; indeed, they retrogress and end up depending on others for security, power, and knowledge, and even for aid and survival.

Aware of our need for these three elements, we, in our call for a national dialogue, proposed that the priorities of our national work be as follows:

1. Building a strong and prosperous economy as the center of economic development, and realizing the well-being of the Egyptians as the center of social development.

2. Egypt's youths represent its present and future, and their issues must top the national action's list of priorities. High among these issues are the optimal use of manpower and the ability of the labor market to accommodate all job seekers.

3. The relationship between the people, who constitute Egypt's human wealth and the sources of its development and growth, and the country's natural resources and economic capabilities must be regulated. That is, a balance between man and land must be created so that we can achieve abundance and strength.

4. Culture, education, and science in Egypt represent the triangle of the national project designed to change the face of political, economic, and social life, achieve cultural development in the coming decades, and to establish links between science and society and between education and production.

5. Curative and preventive health care for Egyptians is not only a state service, but an effort to maintain and preserve the dearest and most valuable thing on this good land, namely, the Egyptian man in his childhood, youth, and old age.

6. Modernizing and developing the administration is the key to a successful performance. No matter how generous nature is, resources and capabilities are dissipated if there is no modern administration to design, plan, implement, and oversee. In our modern Egypt, where resources are scarce and population is abundant, we, more than anybody else, need a modern and developed administration and a firm control system.

7. The call to transfer responsibility to a new generation of Egyptian youth does not stem from a mere desire for change or rotation of power, but is a natural response to legitimate hopes for contributions in building the Egypt of the future.

Brothers and sisters, the start of the national dialogue opens doors to every sincere Egyptian, to every patriotic person committed to the security of his country and people, to every intellectual knowledgeable of his nation's heritage and the people's values, and to every laborer and farmer sweating and working hard to water the soil of Egypt so that it can produce crops, virtue, and development, and so that Egypt's fields can bloom, its desert and valleys can be built up, and development can reach every spot in this land.

This beginning of a national dialogue, brothers and sisters, opens the doors of hope for Egypt's future. We are determined to maintain Egypt's security and stability, and we have sworn to God that we will safeguard the Egyptian citizen's right to a dignified life in which he feels safe about his present and future. We have vowed to shoulder this trust and not to relinquish our responsibility in defending the unity and cohesiveness of this nation and the sacred soil of this homeland. We will remain faithful to our pledge to God and the homeland. Every engagement will be inquired into on the day of reckoning. Peace be upon you.

Announces Committee's Composition

NC2905112494 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0935 GMT 29 May 94

[Text] Cairo, 29 May (MENA)—President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has issued a decision forming the National Dialogue Drafting Committee as follows:

Mustafa Khalil shall be the committee's general rapporteur.

The National Democratic Party [NDP] shall be represented by Dr. Yusuf Wali, deputy prime minister and minister of agriculture and land reclamation and NDP secretary general; Muhammad Safwat al-Sharif, minister of information; and Kamal al-Shadhili, minister of state for People's Assembly and Consultative Council affairs.

The following parties shall be represented by: The Wafd Party by Fu'ad Siraj al-Din; the National Progressive Unionist Grouping by Khalid Muhyi al-Din; the Labor Party by Engineer Ibrahim Shukri; the Liberal Party by Mustafa Kamil Murad; the Nasirite Arab Democratic Party by Diya' al-Din Dawud; Egypt's Arab Socialist

Party by Jamal Rabi'i; the Social Justice Party by Dr. Muhammad 'Abd-al-'Al; the Ummah Party by Ahmad al-Sabbahi; the Greens Party by Kamal Kirah; and the Democratic Union Party by Ibrahim 'Abd-al-Mun'im Turk.

The following people shall also be members of the Drafting Committee: Dr. 'Abd-al-Qadir Hatim, Fikri Makram, Dr. Ahmad Muharram, Kamal Henri Abadir, Dr. Hamid al-Sa'ih, Sayyid Rashid, Tharwat Abazah, Hilmi Nammar, Sayyid Zaki 'Abd-al-Hadi, Dr. Muhammad Raja'i al-Tahhawi, Dr. Ramzi al-Sha'ir, Dr. Mufid Shihab, Ibrahim Nafi', Dr. Hamdi al-Sayyid, Engineer Faruq 'Afifi, Ahmad al- Khawajah, Dr. 'Abd-al-'Azim Ramadan, Dr. Farkhundah Hasan, Dr. Fawziyah 'Abd-al-Sattar, Dr. Aminah al-Jindi, Dr. Nabih al-'Alqamani, Counselor 'Abd-al-Rahman Faraj Muhsin, Muhammad Idris, Abu-Salih al-Alfi, Muhammad Farid Khamis, and Dr. Ibrahim Kamil Abu- al-'Aynayn.

Dr. Mustafa Khalil has invited the members for a meeting on Wednesday morning.

Cairo Asks Security Council To Discuss Yemen

NC2805130494 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1228 GMT 28 May 94

[Text] Cairo, 28 May (MENA)—Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa has stated that Egypt and a number of Gulf states have submitted a request to the UN Security Council to discuss the situation in Yemen and the ongoing fighting there. He pointed out that a cease-fire is important to stop the deteriorating situation in that country. He noted that all parties, including Arab and international ones, are interested in halting the continuing bloodshed in Yemen without prejudice to the political situation in that country.

Musa emphasized that what is important now is to reach a cease-fire in Yemen because this is in the interest of both the Arabs and the Yemenis. A cease-fire, he added, would allow for a return to negotiations and safeguard Yemeni unity. He noted that the continued bloodshed will certainly hurt Yemen's unity and future.

Mubarak Receives Yemeni Foreign Minister

NC2905120394 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1050 GMT 29 May 94

[Text] Cairo, 29 May (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak received Yemeni Foreign Minister Muhammad Salim Basindwah at the Presidential Palace this morning. Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa also attended the meeting. After the meeting, Musa said that the Yemeni minister conveyed to President Mubarak a message from Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih. They also discussed the Yemen situation as Basindwah reviewed the current situation.

During the meeting, President Mubarak emphasized the importance and necessity for an immediate cease-fire and an end to all military operations in Yemen, both in the south and north.

Musa noted that they also reviewed the current situation in the United Nations and the Security Council, which will meet Tuesday to discuss the situation in Yemen in an attempt to foster an atmosphere to resume dialogue and encourage stability inside this fraternal Arab country.

Basindwah said that he conveyed an oral message from President Salih on the leadership's stance in Sanaa vis-a-vis the ongoing events in Yemen. He said that the Yemeni people greatly appreciate President Mubarak's deep concern to stop the bloodshed in Yemen. He said that a cease-fire must be reached within the framework of recognizing Yemen's unity and abolishing any resolution to secede because it is illegal and to have a recourse to the Yemeni Republic constitution.

Basindwash said that any measure taken by the Security Council regarding the events in Yemen must emphasize the importance of safeguarding the Yemeni unity and decomcratic development, particularly because the general elections that were held in Yemen on 17 April were the object of world admiration. He stressed that Egypt is a big, leading, and pioneering country in the whole Arab region, noting that President Mubarak gave us advice and instructions that we appreciated and were eager to listen to. If we do not seek Egypt's help, whose else can we seek?

Answering a question on imposing unity by force in Yemen, Basindwah said that unity had been established voluntarily in 1990, therefore unity already exists, so how we can impose a thing that already exists. He stressed that the party that resorted to force is the one who wants secession. Here Musa interrupted and stressed that regardless of who started the war the point on which we agree is that the continuing use of force is not in the interest of Yemen, its unity, or stability.

Basindwah pointed out that they did not demand that all Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP] leaders surrender but some of them, especially 'Ali Salim al-Bid, because he is the person primarily responsible for current events in Yemen. He said: We still recognize the YSP and wish to continue the dialogue with the moderate leaders and those who believe in Yemeni unity.

Responding to proposals put forward by certain parties to form a confederation as the best solution for the coming stage, Basindwah stressed that Yemen has never been two countries or two peoples. Proof of this is that when two states existed in Yemen, they were called the two parts of Yemen. Confederation, he said, is out of the question because there are no minorities in Yemen and but one Muslim Arab people.

Musa stressed that Egypt demands first a cease-fire and from there things can proceed on a positive rather than

negative course. He noted the role of the Security Council's proposed meeting on a cease-fire resolution, to which Sanaa has agreed. He pointed out that safeguarding unity through war is a losing game and that unity itself is a demand that cannot be criticized or assailed and must be preserved through the Yemeni people's freely accepting this unity. Musa said that the dialogue will take place among the parties of the crisis and if Egypt is asked to play a role, we will be ready but we will not impose it.

Yemeni Embassy in Cairo 'Back to Normal'

NC2805102494 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0840 GMT 28 May 94

[Text] Cairo, 28 May (MENA)—Mr. 'Abd-al-Malik Sa'id, the charge d'affaires of the Yemeni Embassy in Cairo, has stated that operations at the embassy are back to normal today. He said that all employees and diplomats have entered their offices and have resumed their duties after an understanding was reached with the former ambassador, 'Abd-al-Jalil Ghaylan, to allow them to enter.

Ambassador 'Abd-al-Jalil Ghaylan, a northerner who supports the Yemeni Socialist Party of the south, had shut the embassy doors last Wednesday and prevented the staff from entering to protest Yemeni Foreign Minister Muhammad Salim Basindwah's decision to dismiss him and appoint the charge d'affaires, a northerner, to run the embassy's affairs.

'Abd-al-Malik Sa'id said in a statement to MENA that the monthly allowances of Yemeni students studying in Cairo were disbursed today. These allowances were supposed to be disbursed last week. In addition, consular services are being provided for the Yemeni community in Egypt.

He added that former Ambassador 'Abd-al-Jalil Ghaylan is still at his home, which is located above the embassy. The new permanent representative to the Arab League, Ambassador Luqman, today is also operating from his office at the embassy without any problems.

Mubarak on Sudanese 'Provocations,' Yemen

NC3005140994 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1235 GMT 30 May 94

[Excerpt] Cairo, 30 May (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak has announced that Egypt will respond appropriately to the Sudanese Government's provocations at the right time. There are limits to our patience, he said.

In his 11th annual meeting with the media, President Mubarak said Egyptians are good-natured people linked to the Sudanese people with bonds of brotherhood and cordiality. He added: The Sudanese Government will not provoke us into taking a position that harms the Sudanese people, whose well-being is a matter of concern to Egypt.

The president denied reports that 10,000 Egyptian soldiers have been sent to Hala'ib [on the Sudanese border]. There is no justification for such a step, he said.

He said the Sudanese Government's provocations against Egypt are meant to cover up Sudan's internal problems. Sudan's accusations against Egypt are shameful, he said.

The president added: I am seeking to establish peace throughout the world, so how can I seek a conflict with Sudan? They are trying to provoke us, but we will not be provoked unless our security is harmed. The acts they committed against Egypt are minor ones.

On Yemen's problem, President Mubarak said Egypt supports a Yemeni unity established on the right foundations, not one imposed by force.

What is happening in Yemen, he said, shows that the unity was not well-thought out. He said he had conveyed this view to Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih. What is important now, the president said, is to stop the fighting, disengage the troops, and then begin a constructive dialogue.

Only arms dealers will benefit from a continuation of the war, and the Yemeni people will be the victims, he said.

In his statements, the president also discussed a number of domestic issues. He stressed that a housing law will not be issued until a thorough study has been completed by all sides and parties; it should be satisfactory to everybody, he said.

President Mubarak ruled out any dangers or contamination in the Nile's water as a result of the war in Rwanda.

He said terrorism is not a threat to Egypt, and efforts are under way to eliminate and uproot it. Everything is being done cautiously, he said. [passage omitted]

Nonaligned Movement Prepares for Cairo Session

Serbs To Be Excluded

NC2805141794 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1245 GMT 28 May 94

[Text] Cairo, 28 May (MENA)—Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa conferred today with Nana Sutrisna, assistant to the Indonesian president [name and title as received], who is currently visiting Cairo. The Indonesian official, whose country chairs the Nonaligned Movement's current session, stated that they discussed the items on the agenda of the nonaligned foreign ministers' meeting, which President Husni Mubarak will open on Tuesday [31 May]. He added: Egypt has made all the necessary arrangements for the meeting, which we hope will serve the movement's goals.

Asked if Serbia will take part in the Cairo meeting on Tuesday, the Indonesian official said: This issue will not

be discussed, but the Serbs will not be allowed to participate in the meeting of the nonaligned foreign ministers.

Asked about Egypt's position regarding this matter, Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa said: Egypt's position as a host country is based on what the member states decide.

Musa, Iraqi Discuss Agenda

NC3005142794 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1358 GMT 30 May 94

[Excerpts] Cairo, 30 May (MENA)—Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa resumed his meetings today with the foreign ministers of the various countries taking part in the Nonaligned Movement's conference, which will begin in Cairo tomorrow, Tuesday. [passage omitted]

Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa received Iraqi Foreign Minister Sa'id al-Sahhaf. Musa stated that during the meeting, they discussed the issues on the agenda of the Nonaligned meetings to start tomorrow. [passage omitted]

'Terrorist' Killed by Police in Asyut

NC2705150194 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1416 GMT 27 May 94

[Text] Cairo, 27 May—A fugitive terrorist was killed in the al-Badari district in Asyut Governorate today while running away from police who were trying to arrest him.

A responsible security source in the Interior Ministry said today that while the Criminal Investigation Police in the Asyut security directorate were setting up ambushes in the 'Arab Mutayr in the al-Badari district of the Asyut Governorate early this morning, fugitive terrorist 'Ali 'Abd-al-Rahman Salamah opened fire at the police and attempted to escape. The police fired back and killed him.

The source said that the police found an automatic rifle, three magazines with 32 rounds, and a forged identity card in the name of Ibrahim Isma'il Muhammad al-Timsah with a photograph of the terrorist in his possession.

The source said that the criminal investigation authorities are continuing their work in this area to arrest merchants and smugglers of weapons. The criminology laboratory went to the site of the incident, and the prosecution has been informed to begin the investigation.

Policeman Dies in Accidental Airport Shooting

NC2905062694 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2245 GMT 28 May 94

[Text] Cairo, 28 May (MENA)—A police conscript died and another was wounded by a spray of bullets fired accidentally from a submachine gun carried by a police noncommissioned officer [NCO] at Cairo International Airport.

NCO Muhammad Mamduh 'Abd-al-Wahhab, of Cairo Airport's General Police Directorate, who was on patrol duty on the tarmac, reported that police conscripts Mahmud Abu-Zayd Muhammad Khatib and Hamadah 'Ali 'Abdallah had suffered bullet injuries.

Upon examination it was found that Hamadah 'Ali 'Abdallah, the driver of the patrol vehicle, had died of a bullet fired from the firearm carried by the NCO. The bullet passed under his right arm and came out on the left side. Mahmud Abu-Zayd, who was standing next to the driver, suffered an injury to his left leg.

An official security source said that the empty magazine was found at the site of the incident and an examination of the other weapons showed that no other bullets had been fired.

The source added that an investigation revealed that there was no personal dispute between the NCO and the two policemen who were shot.

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Call From Yemen's Salih

LD3005185494 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1845 GMT 30 May 94

[Text] Tripoli, 30 May (JANA)—Within the framework of the continuous contacts between the brother leader of the revolution and the brothers in Yemen, the brother leader of the revolution has received a telephone contact from brother 'Ali Abdallah Salih, president of fraternal Yemen, in a bid to spare the bloodshed between brothers and safeguard Yemeni unity.

Parliamentary Leader Denounces South Yemen Secession

NC3105123494 Paris AFP in English 1019 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] Tripoli, May 31 (AFP)—Libya rejects the secession by southern Yemen and will oppose any plans to send UN troops to keep the warring sides apart, a parliamentary leader said here Tuesday [31 May].

"There exists only one state in Yemen, the republic of Yemen (which merged north and south in 1990) and nobody has the right to interfere in its internal affairs," parliament's foreign affairs secretary, Sa'd Mujbir, told AFP.

"Libya supports Yemen's unity and is opposed to any secession," he said.

Southern leader 'Ali Salim al-Bid proclaimed an independent state with Aden as its capital on May 21, two weeks after civil war broke out. His northern rival, President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, has vowed to crush the "rebellion."

Libyan officials had earlier stopped short of denouncing the secession, issuing statements of support for Yemen's unity.

Mujbir also warned against any "plan to send troops" from the United Nations to keep the warring sides apart,

adding that will "repeat the catastrophes which took place in ex-Yugoslavia and Somalia."

The Security Council is due to debate the Yemeni conflict on Tuesday.

General People's Commitee for Unity Ends Meeting

LD2905160394 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1418 GMT 29 May 94

[Text] Surt, 29 May (JANA)—The General People's Committee [GPC] for Unity ended its first meeting for 1994, which convened between [words indistinct].

During this meeting, the committee discussed the agenda, which includes a number of points, among them the executive program of the resolutions adopted by the Basic People's Congresses; the results of visits by the brother leader of the revolution to sisterly and friendly states. The committee also reviewed the outcome of the visits of presidents of sisterly and friendly states to the Great Jamahiriyah. It also reviewed the report of the GPC for Unity, the issue of unity, and the prerogatives of a member of the GPC for Unity inside the Basic People's Congress [BPC].

At the conclusion of its meetings, the GPC issued a number of executive resolutions governing the work of the GPC. It also laid down the executive program for resolutions adopted by the BPC's which pertain to the GPC.

Regarding Arab unity, and during its discussion of this article, the committee stressed the following:

1. It stressed the ongoing role of the brother leader of the great al-Fatih revolution to achieve Arab unity. The committee highly praised his unionist initiative, as Arab unity represents a pressing necessity to help the Arab world break away from underdevelopment and dependency.

2. To continue the struggle toward the realization of comprehensive Arab unity through the project of Arab unity; to work for the removal of the artificial borders existing between Arab states. To this end, the committee decided the following:

a. To implement the agreements and charters concluded within the Arab Maghreb Union framework; to announce a full union between the Great Jamahiriyah, Sudan, and Egypt within the Arab League context; unity with almost all other Arab states; to set up the Arab common market.

b. To bless any unionist step between the states of the Arab world to bring closer the day of comprehensive Arab unity.

3. To entrust the committee's secretariat with overseeing the implementation and achievement of the BPC resolutions regarding Arab unity.

4. The committee calls for confronting the imperialist plots which seek to partition and tear apart the Arab world.

At the end of its meeting and during a discussion on general issues regarding people's work in the spheres of investment and residence affairs, the committee affirmed freedom of movement, residence, and work [words indistinct] in the Arab countries, adhering to the unionist (?agreements) concluded with some Arab countries, and encouraging Arab Libyan citizens to invest and work in Arab countries.

The committee decided to commit itself to all endorsed and concluded agreements and to speed up the program of residence, particularly in Egypt and Sudan, and draft plans aimed at encouraging Arab Libyan citizens to invest through [words indistinct]. The committee also recommended giving citizens with limited income facilities and priority in the sphere of investment, with the possibility of exempting them from paying the cost of their farms.

The committee stressed the need to speed up establishing a body at the Arab Libyan company for foreign investment to be in charge of following up investments.

Regarding the so-called Gaza-Jericho accord, the committee rejects this accord and the subsequent outcome, and (?expresses support) for the adherence of the Palestinian people to their rights in liberating their homeland and establishing their democratic state.

On the situation in Yemen, the committee affirms that proceeding from the great unionist al-Fatih revolution's firmed principles, the committee confirms its commitment to the Yemeni union [words indistinct] and calls on the Yemeni people to reject inter-fighting and follow the course of dialogue on the basis of the union state constitution.

At the end of the committee's meeting, the brother secretary of the GPC for Unity affirmed the need that "the Unity Committee live up to the level of trust placed on it by the masses of the BPC's.

Protocol on Political Relations Signed With Georgia

LD2405153594 Tripoli JANA in English 1447 GMT 24 May 94

[Text] Tripoli, Al Maa [May] 24, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—In enhancement of the friendly and cooperative ties between the Great Jamahiriyah and the Republic of Georgia a protocol was signed for establishment of political relations between the two countries.

The protocol was signed by the secretary of the Arab Libyan people's bureau in Moscow and by the Georgian ambassador to Russia.

Report Says AIDS Caused by Secret CIA Tests

LD2905135494

[Editorial report] Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic at 1140 GMT on 29 May broadcasts a four-and-a-half-minute item on a recent AIDS report published by the World Health Organization, about the number of people infected worldwide and saying that 40 million people will contract the disease by the end of this century. The report recalls Libya's proposal to the United Nations to set up a world fund to combat AIDS.

It says the United States has the highest number of AIDS cases, giving the number of cases and deaths there.

Hence, the extent of the danger of this disease on human life in general becomes clear. It is a disease that has resulted from secret bacterial tests conducted by the CIA on a number of prisoners. Soon after, the disease spread all over the world and human beings were dying without any hope of halting its spread or eliminating it. Many studies and reports have proved this crime, which the CIA committed against humanity when it interfered in the science of genetics and tested the results of its research on those prisoners. Some of the prisoners died and others left prison and carried the epidemic to the streets where it later found its way to the whole world.

In order to get rid of the consequences of this crime, the United States claimed that the disease had come from Zaire and other African countries, while in reality it has been an American disease from the start.

Some sources have revealed that the United States founded a laboratory in Maryland in 1977, where bacterial tests were carried out on prisoners. The first case of AIDS was recorded in 1979. Three years later, similar cases appeared in Europe and Africa.

Hence, on the threshold of the 21st century, humanity finds itself facing a fatal disease that has no known treatment because of U.S. manipulation in the science of genetics and toxic bacteria.

However, and despite all this, the project that the Great Jamahiriyah presented to the United Nations brings a glimpse of hope for humanity in order to intensify its efforts to confront this epidemic, relinquish armaments and destructive arms arsenals owned by the great powers, and pay attention to this danger that is threatening its sons and humanity as a whole.

Youth Group Issues Death Threats to 'CIA Agents'

LD2905221994 Tripoli Libyan Television Network in Arabic 1930 GMT 29 May 94

[Statement by "first group of the Bani Walid youth"; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] The statement issued by the first group of revolutionary youth of Bani Walid:

To the leader of the nation and its liberator,

At these glorious moments in the life of our free Libyan people who resist tyranny, combat the new Western invasion, shoulder the responsibility for liberating our great nation, and struggle to smash the insulting agreements of humiliation, at these bitter and painful moments in the lives of our Arab nation, our steadfast people in Palestine, our unionist people in Yemen, and the rest of our Arab peoples who are downtrodden in the Gulf by American hegemony, who are at the mercy of the Israelis in Syria, whose national unity in Egypt and Algeria is threatened by Western intelligence conspiracies, and who are exposed in the dear Arab Maghreb to French arrogance, the first group of the Bani Walid revolutionary youth are honored to meet you and to draw from your inspired thinking.

We emphasize the following:

First: Our complete readiness to smash the traitors, those who spread rumors, reactionaries, and those who...[incomplete sentence as crowd start chanting];

Second: There is no alternative to the people's authority and there is no legitimate political framework except the Basic People's Congresses;

Third: We are now obliged to smash the tribal, sectarian, and partisan spirit in order to preserve the unity of our people under confrontation circumstances, in order to carry out the sacred defense of our national entity, and in order to strengthen our national unity that is attacked by enemies within and without; [chanting]

Fourth: In reply to foiled attempts by the enemies to infiltrate our home front, today we announce our revolutionary resolution to liquidate the stray dog CIA agents. [chanting]. The death penalty will pursue all officers of the Western intelligence services who are trying to fragment the home front, violate the security of the Jamahiriyah or the person of our leader, or recruit any sick person to serve their sordid and despicable aims; [chanting]

Fifth: We would like to emphasize to the crusading enemies and local and Arab treacherous forces allying themselves with them that the results of besieging the Jamahiriyah will not be better than the results of besieging Yathrib, and that we will soon launch an attack to smash the strongholds of reaction and imperialism as the soldiers of the Prophet smashed the strongholds of atheism and falsehood in Mecca.

At the same time, we warn everyone who tries to play the role of Bani Quraydhah Jews who broke their promise, tried to stab the Muslims in the back, and formed a fifth column behind the moat [during the siege of Yathrib] that our revenge will not be less than the revenge of God's Messenger, may God's prayers and mercy be upon him, and we will not be more merciful than him. On the contrary, we will be more severe and cruel. [chanting]

Sudan

Opposition Group on 'Intention To Liquidate' Regime

NC2705135394 Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 25 May 94 p 1

[Text] The Sudanese National Democratic Grouping yesterday denounced the Khartoum government's seizure of Egyptian property and new acts of aggression against Egyptians residing in Sudan that threaten the brotherly ties between the two nations.

Faruq Abu-'Isa, chairman of the Higher Coordination Committee, has confirmed the Sudanese people's intention to liquidate the current regime in Khartoum to restore democracy to Sudan.

Elsewhere, the Sudanese Foreign Ministry yesterday reiterated its claims that Egypt has no right to protest the confiscation of its property in Sudan. An official at the ministry, Anwar al-Hadi, said the lease contracts of the confiscated buildings had expired and that the property had been handed over to the Sudanese Government.

Citizens Return From Yemen; Official Promises Aid

EA2705193694 Omdurman Sudan Television Network in English 1600 GMT 27 May 94

[Text] Some 190 Sudanese working in Yemen left al-Hudaydah Port in Yemen to Port Sudan aboard a Sudanese ship SS White Nile Wednesday [25 May] evening. The ship reached Port Sudan harbor today.

An official at the Islamic Medical Society has affirmed its determination to dispatch a medical team to Yemen to be composed of surgeons and nurses in addition to quantities of medical equipment.

Tunisia

President Announces Limited Government Reshuffle

LD3005173594 Tunis Tunisian Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 30 May 94

[Excerpts] President Zine el Abidine Ben Ali conferred at Carthage Palace this morning with Prime Minister Hamed Karoui, who briefed him on the outcome of his recent official visit to Malaysia. [passage omitted]

The prime minister has announced that President Zine el Abidine Ben Ali has decided to introduce a limited reshuffle of the government as follows by appointing:

Ahmed Fria, minister of education and science;
Mondher Zenaidi, minister of transport;
Slaheddine Bouguerra, secretary of state to the minister of national economy, replacing Salah Hamdi; and
Chedli Laroussi, minister of state to the minister of agriculture

Western Sahara

Mohamed Abdelaziz Warns of Danger of Renewed War

LD2805151094 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 28 May 94

[Text] Algeria has expressed its support for a Polisario [Popular Front for the Liberation of Saquia al Hamra and Rio de Oro] call for an international conference to get the UN peace plan out of the current crisis. In a statement two days ago, Foreign Affairs Minister Mohamed Saleh Dembri said that Algeria would welcome any initiative to extend the sphere of consultations in a way that would serve regional interests.

For his part, Saharan President Mohamed Abdelaziz today called on the United Nations once more to put pressure on Morocco to adhere to UN resolutions. Fatima Zahra Ourous reports:

[Ourous] Saharan President Mohamed Abdelaziz urged the United Nations to intervene immediately and put political pressure on Morocco in order to save the UN peace plan for Western Sahara. In a statement published in the Algerian daily EL-CHAAB today, the Saharan president said that if the United Nations fails to implement its plan for the Western Sahara, it will lose its credibility and war would break out in the region again. No one would be able to determine the duration and number of victims of this war, he said. The Saharan official blamed the Moroccan authorities for their persistent efforts to abort the peace plan by creating obstacles and for their lack of a sincere desire to ensure the success of the UN proposal. In this context, the Saharan president cited the foiling by the Moroccan Government of the meetings held for dialogue and negotiations since last July, its persistent breach of the cease- fire conditions, and its attempts to flood the Western Sahara with settlers.

At the end of his statement to EL-CHAAB today, Mohamed Abdelaziz praised Algeria's special role in supporting the Saharan people's struggle.

Kuwait

Yemen's al-'Attas Visits as Envoy for Vice President

Arrives From Abu Dhabi

LD2905131794 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1159 GMT 29 May 94

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 29 May (KUNA)—Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas, envoy of the secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party, arrived here today from Abu Dhabi on a two-day visit to Kuwait during which he will give a message to the amir of Kuwait. [passage omitted]

In an arrival statement to KUNA, the Yemeni envoy said he is confident that his meetings with the amir of Kuwait and Kuwaiti officials will be successful. He stated that they will discuss the situation in Yemen "as a result of the war launched by the military command in Sanaa in the same spirit and with the same rationale as that with which the perfidious war was launched against Kuwait."

Al-'Attas praised the efforts made by Arab states to halt the war and said that these efforts are appreciated by the Yemeni people. [passage omitted]

Hails Arab Peace Efforts

EA2905171994 Aden Democratic Republic of Yemen Radio Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 29 May 94

[Text] Brother Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas, the prime minister, today arrived in the fraternal state of Kuwait, on a visit during which he will deliver a letter from Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, chairman of the Presidential Council in the Democratic Republic of Yemen, to Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, the ruler of the state of Kuwait. In a statement on arrival in Kuwait, the brother prime minister praised the efforts being made by a number of Arab states toward halting the war currently going on in our country, stressing that these efforts are appreciated by our Yemeni people. Brother al-'Attas said that his visit to Kuwait was being paid in the framework of his effort to provide information on the dimensions and the facts of the situation in our country.

Meets With Amir

LD3005122194 Kuwait Radio Kuwait in Arabic 1000 GMT 30 May 94

[Excerpt] His highness the amir of Kuwait, God safeguard him, today received Mr. Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas, the envoy of 'Ali Salim al-Bid, the secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party. Al-'Attas briefed his highness about the fighting and the development of the conflict in Yemen, and the reactions to this crisis at the Arab and regional level.

His highness, God safeguard him, was keen to express Kuwait's firm and principled stance, which calls for tackling problems according to the logic of national interest and by brotherly dialogue without the use of violence. Resorting to violence and the use of arms increases disputes and complicates problems. It would also deepen wounds, waste energy and result in destruction.

In this context, His highness the amir, God safeguard him, expressed his concern that the Yemeni conflict could have a bad effect on the Arab situation. This is a matter that worries all leaders and officials, especially as the Arab nation needs to close ranks and reunite to regain its dignity and influence.

At the end of the meeting his highness the amir affirmed that Kuwait will support all honest and beneficial efforts to stop the bloodshed and restore understanding and reconciliation between the two parts of Yemen. [passage omitted]

Further on Meeting With Amir

EA3005213394 Aden Democratic Republic of Yemen Radio Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 30 May 94

[Excerpt] His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, the amir of the fraternal state of Kuwait, this afternoon received brother Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas, the prime minister, who briefed him on the developments of the dispute in our country, the progress of the battles there, and regional and Arab reactions. During the meeting, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah expressed fraternal Kuwait's firm and consistent stand which calls for the settling of disputes with the logic of national interest and fraternal dialogue in isolation of the use of force. His highness stressed during his meeting with brother Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas that the use of force and arms would only exacerbate the differences and problems. Wounds would be deepened and strength would be lost, while destruction would prevail. He said Kuwait would support any sincere and useful effort to stem the bloodshed and restore understanding and amity between the two parts of Yemen. The amir of Kuwait expressed fear that the Yemeni conflict would have adverse effects on the overall Arab situation. [passage omitted]

Al-'Attas: Iraq, Sudan Aiding North

EA3105111794 Aden Democratic Republic of Yemen Radio Network in Arabic 2045 GMT 30 May 94

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Before his departure from the fraternal state of Kuwait, Prime Minister Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas held a news conference in which he accused the Sanaa regime of aiming at controlling the oilfields in the Democratic Republic of Yemen. He pointed out that some Arab countries such as Iraq and Sudan are directly involved in the northern forces' war against our country.

The brother prime minister said that the northern forces' war against our country is exactly similar to Iraq's invasion of the fraternal state of Kuwait in 1990. In both cases there are misplaced ideas claiming the annexation

of a part to the motherland. The brother prime minister confirmed that the objective behind the declaration of the Democratic Republic of Yemen was to prevent the breakup of Yemen into numerous smaller states.

Ends Visit

LD3005130894 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1240 GMT 30 May 94

[Text] Kuwait, 30 May—Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, envoy of 'Ali Salim al-Bid, the secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party, left Kuwait today. During his one-day visit, al-Attas conveyed a message from al-Bid to the amir of Kuwait. The content of the message was not disclosed.

Al-Attas, who is touring a number of Arab countries, said that his visit to Kuwait was aimed at briefing Kuwaiti officials about the latest developments of the war raging in Yemen.

Oman

Yemen's Al-'Attas Arrives as Envoy of al-Bid

JN2805133894 Muscat Radio Oman Network in Arabic 1300 GMT 28 May 94

[Text] Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas, a prominent leader in Yemen and representative of Mr. 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party, arrived in the country this afternoon. He was received at al-Sib International Airport by Sayf Bin-Hamad Bin-Sa'ud, minister of the Sultan's court; Yusuf Bin'Alawi Bin-'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs; and the Yemeni ambassador to Oman.

Al-'Attas' visit to the Sultanate comes within the Sultanate's endeavors and eagerness to end the fighting and stop bloodletting among the Yemeni brothers.

Holds Talks With Sultan

EA2805200594 Aden Democratic Republic of Yemen Radio Network in Arabic 1630 GMT 28 May 94

[Text] His Majesty Sultan Qabus Bin-Sa'id Al Sa'id, the sultan of the Sultanate of Oman, received late this afternoon Brother Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas, the chairman of the Council of Ministers. The OMANI NEWS AGENCY, which reported this, said that the talks concentrated on the current situation in the Yemeni arena, and the means by which a solution could be found to save the Yemeni people from the woes of the ongoing war and achieve peace and stability for the Yemeni people.

During the meeting Sultan Qabus expressed his interest in an end to the fighting, so that the shedding of the blood of the brothers in Yemen could stop and the stability of Yemen and its security could be maintained and preserved. He stressed the necessity of the disputing parties returning to dialogue, instead of fighting among themselves, to achieve the aspirations of the Yemeni people for stability and development.

Brother Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas arrived in Muscat this afternoon for a visit to the Sultanate of Oman. During this visit he will be holding talks with Omani officials about the ongoing situation in Yemen, within the framework of the efforts and concern of the fraternal Sultanate of Oman, to stop the war and stop the bloodletting of the Yemeni people. On arrival at the Sib airport he was received by al-Sayyid Bin-Hamad Bin-Su'ud, minister of the sultan's palace, and Yusuf Bin-'Alawi Bin-'Abdallah, the Omani minister of state for foreign affairs.

United Arab Emirates

Yemen's al-'Attas Visits as Envoy of al-Bid

Arrives in Abu Dhabi

JN2905064294 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0530 GMT 29 May 94

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 28 May (WAKH)—Engineer Haydar Abu-Bakr al- 'Attas, envoy of 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party, arrived in Abu Dhabi tonight on a visit to the United Arab Emirates as part of a tour that has thus far included Egypt, Syria, Saudi Arabia, and Oman.

Meets With President

JN2905101694 Abu Dhabi United Arab Emirates Radio Network in Arabic 0930 GMT 29 May 94

[Excerpt] His highness Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan, the president, received Engineer Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas, envoy of President 'Ali Salim al-Bid, this morning. The meeting was attended by his highness Shaykh Khalifah Bin-Zayid Al Nuhayyan, Abu Dhabi heir apparent and deputy commander in chief of the Armed Forces.

During the meeting the two sides reviewed the recent developments in the Yemeni arena and the efforts to settle the Yemeni crisis and achieve peace and stability for the fraternal Yemeni people.

Eng. al-'Attas said he values the role his highness Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan has assumed to restore peace to Yemen and his concern over the Yemeni people's interests, security, and stability. [passage omitted]

Further on Meeting With President

EA2905170594 Aden Democratic Republic of Yemen Radio Network in Arabic 1400 GMT 29 May 94

[Text] The prime minister, Brother Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas, has expressed his appreciation for the role played by His Highness al-Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al-Nuhayyan, president of the UAE, in [word indistinct]

peace in Yemen and his concern about the interests of the Yemeni people and their peace and stability. This was said when His Highness al-Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al-Nuhayyan received at the Presidential Palace this morning Brother Haydar Abu- Bakr al-'Attas in the presence of His Highness al-Shayk Khalifah Bin-Zayid Al-Nuhayyan, the crown prince of Abu Dhabi and deputy supreme commander of the Armed Forces.

The meeting discussed the current situation in the Yemeni arena and the efforts aimed at solving the Yemeni crisis and achieving peace and stability.

Yemen

Salih Said To Call al-Bid With Cease-Fire Proposal

JN2705160494 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 24 May 94 p 1

[Text] Reliable sources in Aden have told AL-ITTIHAD that the Yemeni president yesterday telephoned southern leader 'Ali Salim al-Bid and asked for an unconditional cease-fire.

Another source in the Socialist Party has also said that Mujahid Abu-Shawarib, the deputy prime minister in the Sanaa government, who is currently in Paris, the night before last telephoned some Socialist Party leaders in Aden asking them to approve a cease-fire and start immediate negotiations in Paris between Sanaa and Aden (three people from each party). The source said Aden does not object to a cease-fire and negotiations, on the condition that Sanaa withdraws all of its troops from the south.

Salih Says Troops Waging 'Final' Battle

JN3105132194 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 31 May 94

[Excerpts] Brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, Presidential Council chairman and supreme commander of the Armed Forces, today visited the Tariq Bin-Ziyad Camp. He was welcomed by the camp's commander, officers, NCO's, and soldiers. [passage omitted]

In an address, the brother chairman said that he was extremely happy to meet with the camp's officers, NCO's, and soldiers. He congratulated them and through them all valiant officers, NCO's, and soldiers of the Armed Forces on all combat axes as they wage the most honorable national battle to defend the homeland's unity and the unity's future. He said: I congratulate our people throughout the Yemeni homeland on the great and successive victories that have been scored and are being scored by our valiant troops, the soldiers of unity and constitutional legitimacy, against the gang of apostasy and secession which wanted to dismember the Yemeni homeland in return for a handful of dirty money.

Addressing the officers, NCO's, and soldiers, the brother chairman said: Your brothers on the combat axes are now waging the final and decisive battle against the gang of apostasy and secession and their supporters. He said this gang is an agent tool that takes delight in subservience and betraying the homeland. Backed by extensive popular support, our valiant Armed Forces continue to bring the dens of this gang under their iron grip to clear the homeland of their filth.

The brother chairman and supreme commander of the Armed Forces added: I am here today to bring you the glad tidings of the victory and to express appreciation for you and for every soldier, officer, and NCO. Thanks to your faith, unwavering resolve, and firm positions, you are recording epics of glory and victory for the Yemeni people's will to maintain unity and democracy. It is the will of the faithful, sincere men who never yield in the face of ordeals and disasters and who are defending the most precious gains of the Yemeni revolution and the Yemeni people, namely, unity and democracy. You are defending constitutional legitimacy and all the sublime principles and values of our one Yemeni people and their eternal unity.

The brother chairman and supreme commander of the Armed Forces said: I convey to you and to the masses of our Yemeni people the congratulations of the fighters who are firmly advancing toward the last strongholds and dens of the secessionist gang in valiant Aden to purge it of their filth. Your valiant troops are also marching toward Hadhramaut to liquidate the remainder of the gang, led by agent, treasonous criminal 'Ali Salim al-Bid.

The brother chairman said: Congratulations to you in the Armed Forces, the forces of unity and legitimacy, as you wage or contribute to this national battle, the battle of unity, democracy, and defending the homeland; the battle of honor, heroism, self- denial, and dignity. Glory to all the righteous martyrs. May they have God's mercy and forgiveness in the Garden of Eden. Be sure that God is on your side and that our people back you. March from one victory to another. May God support you. Peace be upon you. [passage omitted]

Salih Chairs Presidential Council, Cabinet Joint Session

JN2905183994 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 29 May 94

[Text] Lieutenant General brother 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council, today chaired a joint session of the council and the Cabinet, with the participation of the House of Representatives speaker brother Shaykh 'Abdallah Bin-Husayn al-Ahmar.

The brother Presidential Council chairman began by welcoming the brother new members to the Cabinet, emphasizing that they will bring in fresh efforts to the

work of the Cabinet in new posts that have been disrupted by the rebellious separatists as part of a plan to disrupt the efficacy of the executive authority and the state's agencies in general.

The brother chairman said that the government has ahead of it pressing executive tasks interwoven with the achievements being made on the military side and executed by the valiant [word indistinct] in the valiant Armed Forces—the forces of unity that are protecting constitutional legality, and whose position grows stronger by the day due to the broad masses rallying around them and the realization on the part of all the officials [words indistinct] the combination of executive and popular efforts with the achievements of [word indistinct] unity and constitutional legality. He underlined the need not to ignore the important role of political action on the national, regional, and international levels and to keep the dialogue with brother unionists in the [Yemeni] Socialist Party going within the context of maintaining unity, democracy, and constitutional legality and the interaction with the generous efforts of brothers and friends in the interest of the preservation of unity and democracy and stemming the flow of Yemeni blood and safeguarding our country's resources and capabilities.

The session then proceeded to discuss items on its agenda that are related to the military, economic, social, and political developments in the country and the efforts that must be exerted by the government and people toward fortifying the process of national construction and allowing constitutional institutions to carry out their work normally despite the exceptional circumstances which the secessionist rebels brought onto the country and people [words indistinct] ailing secessionist [word indistinct].

The joint session reviewed the outcome of daily contacts with brother and friendly countries that aimed at [words indistinct] the treasonous, reprehensible [word indistinct] the separatists toward the homeland and its unity, and the present and future of the country. The session highly appreciated the stands of the brother and friendly countries and their principled stand alongside our people and our Yemeni homeland and its unity and the constitutional institutions and our country's democratic option. The joint session emphasized that every effort and all energies available to all the officials and the citizens, wherever they are, must be [word indistinct] and defeat the gang of rebellion and secession and bringing to justice all those who have been involved in the crime of igniting war and the declaration of secession. They stressed the priorities that the executive branch of government must hasten to address at the level of all the ministries, the departments, and public corporations, including the creation of greater areas to absorb [words indistinct] from all parts of the homeland and organizing it in all fields (?in order) to consolidate steadfastness and enhance the capacity of the homeland to cope with challenges and repair and rehabilitate the national devastation wrought by the war triggered by the secessionist rebels.

Salih Holds Phone Conversation With King Fahd

JN2805124994 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 28 May 94

[Text] A telephone conversation was held last night between brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, Presidential Council chairman, and the custodian of the two holy places, His Majesty King Fahd of Saudi Arabia. The two leaders discussed developments in our country and bilateral ties, as well as issues of mutual concern.

Sanaa Radio Reports Ministers Take Oath of Office

JN2805132794 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 28 May 94

[Text] Before brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, the Presidential Council chairman, brothers 'Abd-al-Qadir Ba Jammal and Faysal Bin-Shamlan took the Constitutional oath on their appointments as deputy prime minister and minister of oil and mineral resources respectively. The oath-taking ceremony was attended by Dr. Muhammad Sa'id al-'Attar, the acting prime minister.

Brother 'Abdallah 'Awad Ba Matraf also took the Constitutional oath before Lt. Gen. 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, the Presidential Council chairman, on his appointment as governor of Lahij Governorate. The oath-taking ceremony was attended by Dr. Muhammad Sa'id al-'Attar, the acting prime minister, and Dr. Muhammad Hasan Dammaz, minister of local administration.

Brothers Muhammad al-Ra'di, Mansur 'Abd-al-Jalil, and Ahmad Muhammad al-Mutawwakil also took the Constitutional oath on their appointment as our country's ambassadors to Sudan, Ethiopia, and Lebanon respectively. The oath-taking ceremony was attended by Dr. Muhammad Sa'id al-'Attar, the acting prime minister, and Muhammad Salim Basindwah, the foreign minister.

House of Representatives Starts Second Annual Term

Members Discuss Secession Declaration

JN2805150294 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 28 May 94

[Excerpts] The House of Representatives this morning started the sessions of the first period of the first round of its second annual term under brother Shaykh 'Abdallah Bin-Husayn al-Ahmar, the House speaker.

On the occasion of the House starting its second annual term, the brother House of Representatives speaker

delivered a speech in which he congratulated the House of Representatives members and the Yemeni people on the blessed 'Id al-Adha and the fourth unity anniversary, which will remain a shining point in the history of our people and a major turning point in their blessed march.

The House of Representatives speaker noted that the parliamentary elections of 27 April [1993] provided clear evidence of our people's awareness and sound instincts. These elections, he said, produced a new political reality in the Yemeni arena.

The House of Representatives speaker noted that the secessionist group in the Socialist Party leadership, which led the country to war and infighting, had also directed its poisonous arrows against the House of Representatives by taking advantage of its positions in the state's executive agencies, despite the fact that the House had to put up with a great deal of arrogance from some of these leaders out of concern for the march of goodness and prosperity, and out of concern for national unity.

After that, the House reviewed and approved the agenda of the current parliamentary term. The House also listened to and approved the minutes of the last session of the previous parliamentary term.

The House then listened to a letter addressed to it by Justice Minister 'Abdallah Ahmad Ghanim on the public actions committed by Ahmad 'Ubayd Bin-Daghr, Anis Hasan Yahya, Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas, Salim Muhammad Jubran, Qasim 'Abd-al-Rabb, and Muhammad 'Ali al- Qayrahi, including the crimes of violating the Constitution, attacking citizens and private and public property, issuing orders in contravention of the law, and organizing rebellion against the public order despite being members of the House. He said confirmed information on these acts were received from the Defense Ministry, the Interior Ministry, and other parties.

The justice minister's letter to the House states:

We appreciate your positive response to allow us to take the legal measures against them in accordance with your prerogatives, as stipulated in the Constitution, and in accordance with Article 64-F. [passage omitted] In accordance with the aforementioned articles and following your permission, the Public Prosecutor issued an arrest warrant against these persons, as well as others. We hope you will take measures to inform the House of these details in accordance with the aforesaid articles. We will keep your esteemed House informed of all developments.

The House then discussed the Public Prosecutor's report which was referred to it by the justice minister. Following a lengthy discussion of this subject, the matter was referred to the Constitutional and Legal Affairs Committee to study it in an urgent manner and to present a ruling to the House on the request to deprive the members mentioned in the justice minister's memorandum on their immunity, in accordance with the Constitutional texts and the House of Representatives bylaws issued by Law No. 5 of 1990.

The people's deputies then discussed al-Bid's declaration of secession. The House members, including members of the Yemeni Socialist Party bloc, stressed that the declaration of secession by al-Bid and his gang is a stab in the heart of every Yemeni. Members stressed that the war is between unity and the enemies of unity and that everyone supports unity, and that the people will sacrifice everything dear to protect it.

The House also stressed the need to preserve democracy and Constitutional legitimacy and its absolute rejection of any foreign intervention in the Republic of Yemen's internal affairs, because any intervention or recognition of the secessionist gang only expresses a flagrant animosity against the entire Yemeni people and a hostility against their Constitutional and democratic institutions.

The House set up a committee comprising House Members Yahya 'Ali (al-Ra'i), 'Abdallah Sharaf (al-Humaydi), Yahya Mansur Abu-Usba', Muhammad 'Abdallah (al-Kifli), Mansur Ahmad Sayf, Muhammad Naji ('Allaw), 'Abdu Muhammad al-Zanadi, Muhammad Yahya Hammud (al- Sharafi) to draft a statement refuting the declaration of secession, stressing the need to protect unity through all means, and urging all states, particularly Arab states, to support unity and [words indistinct] overcome the sedition that was fabricated by some elements that have turned against the Constitution and legitimacy and against the will of the people as expressed by the elections of 27 April 1993.

The House also set up a committee including members 'Abdallah 'Ali (Sa'tar), Muhammad 'Ali Ba Musallam, Sultan Sa'id (al- Barakani), 'Abdallah Mahdi 'Abdu, 'Abd-al-Wahhab al-Rawhani, and Sultan (Sayyan al-'Adwani) to draft letters to the Arab League, the UN secretary general, and to the parliaments of the fraternal and friendly states.

The House also asked the government to send the brother foreign minister to attend the House's session tomorrow, Sunday [29 May], to explain the political situation concerning the developments in our country so that the parliament can take the necessary steps.

Today's session was attended by brother Dr. 'Abd-Salam Khalid Salman, minister of legal affairs and minister of the House of Representatives affairs. The House will resume its sessions tomorrow, God willing.

House Issues Statement

JN2905140294 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 29 May 94

[Statement issued by the Yemeni House of Representatives on 29 May]

[Text] Statement by the House of Representatives concerning the declaration of secession.

Praise be to God, who said in the Holy Koran: And hold fast, all together, by the rope which God stretches out for you, and be not divided among yourselves. Blessings and prayers of God on His Prophet Muhammad, his household, and companions.

The House of Representatives, the legitimate representative of all people of the united Yemen and the voice of their will, [words indistinct] the national responsibility it shoulders, and out of its understanding of the threats (?facing the country) these days has broken off its holiday [words indistinct] on 17 Dhi al-Hijjah 1414 hegira, corresponding to 28 May 1994 to discuss the (?criminal) act committed by 'Ali Salim al-Bid and his secessionist gang against the country's unity, sovereignty, and stability by declaring secession on 21 May 1994.

In view of the seriousness of this act, which is considered high treason and a violation of the Constitution and an infringement on the Republic of Yemen's sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity, the people's deputies discussed this treacherous act from all Constitutional, legal, and political aspects in the light of the Constitution and the valid laws and the country's higher national interests.

Based on these discussions and the constitutional and legal texts, the House of Representatives decides the following:

1. (?To condemn) al-Bid's declaration of secession as a violation of the Constitution and all valid laws in the Republic of Yemen.

2. The House considers this declaration not only a rebellion against legitimacy, but also a flagrant encroachment against the will of the Yemeni people and their unity, independence, sovereignty, security and stability. All unionist and democratic forces, as well as all citizens, must stand against this act and confront it through all means since it is a criminal act, which calls for bringing al-Bid and those who supported him to trial on charges of high treason on the basis of the Constitution and the valid laws.

3. The House of Representatives, as a legislative body, represents all the people and adopts its decisions by majority at official meetings and in accordance with the Constitution and its bylaws. No deputy or group of deputies has the right to hold a meeting or adopt a decision outside its headquarters and away from its speakership. This indicates that what these elements had done is null and void. These elements alleged that they represent the Yemeni Socialist Party bloc, and they approved al-Bid's secessionist declaration. Their action represented an aggression against the unity, independence, and territorial integrity of Yemen.

4. The House of Representatives urges all sisterly and friendly countries to respect their positions and commitments toward the Republic of Yemen as an independent sovereign state that is an Arab League and UN member, and not to interfere in its affairs, because what is going on is an internal affair in which no country has the right to interfere, in accordance with the Constitution of the Republic of Yemen, the Arab League Charter, and international charters.

The House emphasizes that any interference by any country or any regional or international organization represents a dangerous sign that will prolong strife and shift it from the Yemeni horizon to the Arab and international horizons. This will also open the way for renegade movements in a number of countries, and will widen differences among the countries involved in this interference.

The House of Representatives appreciates the heroic positions of the Armed Forces which protect unity and legitimacy. We pray Almighty God to grant these forces success, and we urge all sons of the Yemeni people to support the Armed Forces in order to protect unity and legitimacy by all material and moral means.

The House urges the soldiers, noncommissioned officers, and officers who are subjected to the orders of the secessionist clique to join the army of unity and legitimacy in order to preserve the peoples' respect for them, and to protect their militant assets.

We seek God's support, and peace be upon you.

[Signed] The House of Representatives on 18 Dhu al-Hijjah, 1414 Hegira, corresponding to 29 May 1994

Al-Iryani Submits Report

JN2905204594 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 29 May 94

[Text] On behalf of the government, Dr. 'Abd-al-Karim al-Iryani, minister of planning and development, today submitted a verbal report to the House of Representatives on Yemeni developments from the political perspective. The brother minister dismissed any possibility of a definitive end to the fighting short of recognizing constitutional legality and placing those who are still misguided in the Armed Forces under the command of constitutional legality. It is not surprising that a number of brother and friendly countries have called for a cease-fire—some of them in good faith—due to their (?not knowing what will happen) after the cease-fire. He emphasized that a cease-fire will not be possible before constitutional legality is recognized and the Armed Forces are placed under a single command. It is possible to engage unionists in the Socialist Party in dialogue after the voiding of the secession declared by the traitor 'Ali Salim al-Bid and [word indistinct] to the Constitution and [word indistinct] and the results of the elections of 27 April, 1993.

Later, the House Constitutional Committee read out a report to the people's deputies concerning a request to lift parliamentary immunity from a number of deputies.

The committee's report, which led with the constitutional and legal standpoints, also stated the following:

Given that the crimes committed [words indistinct] as stated by the memorandum of the brother minister of justice, which proves that the legal action has not been not brought out of spite, and in view of compliance with the legal and (?procedural) aspects in this regard, and accordingly, the House (words indistinct) the following:

The parliamentary immunity shall be lifted from the house members listed below:

[Name indistinct], number of the constituency: Ahmad 'Ubayd [word indistinct], 154; Anis Hasan ('Atwah), 25; Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas, (?161); (Salim) Muhammad Jubran, 152; Qasim 'Abd-al-Rabb Salih, 21; Muhammad 'Ali (al-Qayrahi), 126.

[Words indistinct] the judicial authorities to take measures toward the arrest, search, and investigation, or imprisonment, or any other penal measures that justice authorities deem fit to take against them as per Article (?64) of the Republic of Yemen's Constitution.

Second [as heard], the committee recommends that the House Speakership Council pursue investigation and prosecution, and brief the House on evolving developments. The House has approved the recommendations of the Constitutional and Legal Committee in this regard. [Words indistinct] messages [words indistinct] to the Arab League secretary general, the UN secretary general, and Arab and international [word indistinct] about the developments in the Yemeni arena.

The House is to resume tomorrow morning, Monday [words indistinct]

Al-Iryani: 'Political Message' Expected From South

JN2705161894 Amman Radio Jordan in English 1600 GMT 27 May 94

[Text] The Yemeni authorities say they expect a political message from the south to arrive this evening.

Planning Minister 'Abd-al-Karim al-Iryani said the Yemeni Government had issued no military communiques since Tuesday [24 May] evening because it is all quiet on the front. He declined to say who the message will be from or what it would be about.

In Sanaa, Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih has called in the ambassadors of the permanent member states of the United Nations Security Council. Diplomatic sources said Mr. Salih told the ambassadors that if the council were to say anything, Sanaa would prefer that it be a council president's statement rather than a resolution.

Al-Iryani Threatens To End Dialogue if UNSC Intervenes

NC2705153894 London MBC Television in Arabic 1500 GMT 27 May 94

[Text] Minister of Development and Planning 'Abd-al-Karim al-Iryani has threatened that Sanaa will close the door to dialogue with moderate and unionist leaders of the Yemeni Socialist Party if the UN Security Council [UNSC] intervenes in the Yemeni crisis.

He said Sanaa is awaiting a political message from Aden but did not disclose its contents.

Al-Iryani said one the reasons that military communiques have not been released since Tuesday is because the situation on the front is calm.

Al-Iryani Lists Requirements for Mediation Efforts

JN2805194394 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 28 May 94

[Text] Dr. 'Abd-al-Karim al-Iryani, minister of planning and development, has rejected any UN Security Council intervention in the Yemeni crisis as an intrusion upon a domestic Yemeni affair. Yemen's position on any resolution that the council may pass will be influenced by its wording, the minister told Radio Qatar during an interview it carried today. Asked to comment on a political initiative by the [Yemeni] Socialist Party [YSP], the minister said he thought Sanaa and unionists within the YSP in Aden were in touch in an attempt to fashion a mutually agreeable formula. If such a formula is worked out, he added, it will mark a point of departure. The minister stressed that any such arrangement should provide for Yemen's unity, preserve legitimacy, produce a cease-fire, and ensure the unity of the military. These are key elements of the consultations, he pointed out.

A decision about whether the forces of legitimacy would enter Aden, al-Iryani said, would be made with reference to political considerations and a concern to spare civilians the horrors of war.

The Arab League's approach to the developments in Yemen must respect the country's national unity, Constitutional legitimacy, and the unity of the Armed Forces. Any Arab mediation effort not grounded in these principles will be non-productive, the foreign minister stressed. Arab mediation efforts have yet to go beyond exhortations to stop fighting to a well-defined plan for a practical solution. This kind of approach was plausible before the war broke out. However, with a war now raging, there is a need for a political agreement that will rule out a future recourse to force of arms.

Dr. al-Iryani praised Qatar's position underscoring Yemen's unity and Constitutional legitimacy.

Al-Iryani: Entering Aden Would Be 'Political' Decision

JN3005095294 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 30 May 94 p 28

["Exclusive report" by Fathi al-Qatta']

[Text] AL-DUSTUR has contacted Dr. 'Abd-al-Karim al-Iryani in Sanaa. Al-Iryani is the minister of development and planning and a former foreign minister. He is also close to Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and is sometimes called the engineer of Yemeni policy.

During our telephone conversation, al-Iryani said that a decision to enter the city of Aden by force, following the two-week siege, would be a political and not a military question. There are 400,000 citizens in Aden and the leadership does not want to risk their lives.

Asked about the failure of the Democratic Republic of Yemen, proclaimed on 21 May, to secure recognition, even from countries that do not have any political weight—which could have been a victory for it that would open the door to further recognition—al-Iryani said there is no alternative to reversing the secession. He said he expects the secessionists to go.

On the current moves, namely, the request made by Egypt, the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Kuwait, and Bahrain, to hold an urgent session of the Security Council to discuss the situation in Yemen, al-Iryani said: The Security Council member states have asserted to our mission in New York that they adhere to Yemen's unity and democracy and respect its sovereignty and independence. Any resolution adopted by the Council that contradicts this reality will be rejected.

On the meeting scheduled to be held by the foreign ministers of the Gulf Cooperation Council in Saudi Arabia during the coming hours, al-Iryani said he had no comment, however, if this meeting aims at interfering in Yemen's domestic affairs, then it will be a serious precedent.

Regarding a statement issued by the Political Bureau of the Socialist Party, carried by Aden radio yesterday, denying al-Iryani's statements to the media about a secret dialogue going on between those al-Iryani described as the unionists within the Socialist Party and the leadership in Sanaa, al-Iryani said: They are free to deny or confirm whatever they want. The important thing is that we have received a signal from a third party—a senior Yemeni figure whom he declined to name—according to which the brothers in Aden say verbatim: Let us first agree to a cease-fire and then everything is negotiable. This came in reply to previous messages.

Regarding accusations propagated by some Arab media in their comments on Yemen that the General People's Congress [GPC] and President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih himself, who is the GPC's secretary general, have sought to divide the ranks of the Socialist Party—by trying to win over some of its influential leaders, such as Salim Salih Muhammad, the assistant secretary general of the Socialist Party and dismissed Presidential Council member who was appointed with the separatist state; and Haytham Qasim Tahir, member of the Political Bureau and the dismissed defense minister—Dr. al-Iryani said he can prove that 'Ali Salim al-Bid is the one who proposed the question of merger. Al-Bid cannot deny this.

Al-Iryani added that the separatists cannot talk about the accord document when they talk about secession. Had the document been implemented, it would have enhanced unity because it was signed by all the political forces in Yemen. The first to spurn this document was the Socialist Party. Al-Iryani denied that Haytham Qasim Tahir, the former defense minister, was killed recently.

Dr. al-Iryani said all Yemenis, young and old, value Jordan's true fraternal position in support of the Yemeni people.

Al-Ahmar: UN Should 'Rescue' Bosnia, Avoid Yemen

JN2705174294 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 May 94

[Text] Shaykh 'Abdallah Bin-Husayn al-Ahmar, the House of Representatives speaker, has stressed that what is happening in Yemen is an internal affair that is of no concern to the UN Security Council. He noted that if the UN Security Council is concerned about human rights, then it should rescue the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

These statements emerged in a news conference held by the brother House of Representatives speaker in Abu Dhabi yesterday. He explained that the Yemeni people are offering everything for the sake of unity because it is dear and is worthy of sacrificing lives.

Shaykh 'Abdallah Bin-Husayn al-Ahmar said Yemeni unity is considered a foundation stone on the path of Arab unity. Therefore, he said, any recognition of the separatists is tantamount to hostility against the Yemeni people.

He added: Doors are open and bridges are built with all fraternal Arab and friendly states. The door to dialogue has not been closed with the unionists in the Socialist Party.

Al-Ahmar Rules Out Security Council Role

PM3005104194 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 27 May 94 pp 1, 4

[Reports by 'Abdallah Hammudah and Amir Taheri in London, Naji al-Harazi in Sanaa, Nura Fakhuri and Taj-al-Din 'Abd-al-Haqq in Abu-Dhabi, and AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT bureaus in Aden and Cairo: "Failure of the Meeting between Zayid and al-Ahmar Speeds

Up United Arab Emirates' Official Recognition of Democratic Yemen; Salih Tries to Impose 'Legitimacy' by Penetrating Hadramaut and Splitting the Socialist Party]

[Excerpts] The Yemeni war raged on yesterday while the search continued for a diplomatic solution that would determine the fate and future of the Democratic Republic of Yemen [DRY]. Indications at both levels are that the Sanaa leadership is determined to impose what it sees as "legitimate and constitutional" by all means including opening a front in Hadramaut and trying to split the Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP] despite rejection by the southerners and the YSP leadership. [passage omitted]

Diplomatic sources in Abu-Dhabi have stated that the failure of the meeting held between Shaykh 'Abdallah Bin-Husayn al-Ahmar [Yemeni House of Representatives speaker, Yemeni Reform Grouping leader, and Hashid tribes chieftain], and [United Arab Emirates President] Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan might speed up the official recognition of the new southern state in Yemen because al-Ahmar's visit was "Sanaa's last card to clear the air with Abu-Dhabi, which has frankly held 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih responsible for the continuation of the fighting."

Diplomatic observers say that "nobody can succeed where al-Ahmar failed because of al-Ahmar's close personal relationship with Shaykh Zayid and his tribal weight in the region." Al-Ahmar's statement after the meeting reflected his extreme annoyance because 'Ali Salim al-Bid had been described as president. He said "that is a very big word, and it is an insult to Yemen." Despite his implicit criticism of the United Arab Emirates, Shaykh 'Abdallah al-Ahmar said at his press conference: "I do not believe that any Arab or friendly state would recognize the secession."

Al-Ahmar emphasized that resorting to military means to settle the issue "was the last choice in the interest of safeguarding Yemen's unity." He added that "Yemen does not reject mediation to stop the war provided it is in the context of legitimacy." He denied the rumors about the possibility of a meeting between President Salih and the southern leader 'Ali Salim al-Bid. He said that "it would be improper to hold a meeting between the president and a mutineer."

Al-Ahmar rejected intervention by the Security Council in the Yemeni conflict. He said: "What has the Security Council to do with an internal issue?" But he avoided the pitfall in which Dr. 'Abd-al-Karim al-Iryani, planning and development minister and member of the General Committee (Political Bureau) of the General People's Congress [GPC]—President Salih's party—slipped when he accused foreign powers of aiding the mutineering secessionists. Shaykh 'Abdallah did not apportion any blame in that respect.

The Yemeni House of Representatives speaker denied the presence of any extremist forces in Yemen. He said that Sanaa has given the United States assurances on that and got from it an assurance of support for Yemeni unity. He also denied that former south Yemeni President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad was offered the post of president. He said: " 'Ali Nasir Muhammad is a patriotic leader but we do not offer posts to anyone. The way is open for everyone to serve the homeland." [passage omitted]

Letter Emphasizes 'Absolute Rejection' of UN Role

JN2705181794 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 May 94

[Letter from "political parties and organizations, and mass, creative, and popular organizations in the Republic of Yemen" to UN Security Council president; place and date not given]

[Text] Brother UN Security Council president:

Greetings,

We would like to inform your excellency, as well as the UN Security Council member states, of our absolute rejection of any intervention by your esteemed council in what is happening inside our country, since it is an internal affair. What is happening is that the entire people are seeking to preserve their unity, which will guarantee their stability and the stability of the region, against a attempted secession and a rebellion that aims at striking at their unity, Constitutional legitimacy, and stability. This attempt represents only those who are behind it, and not the Yemeni people, who agree on unity.

You must understand that involving the Security Council in such an internal affair will only help complicate the problem and damage the sincere Yemeni efforts that are being exerted to end and contain the rebellion, on the basis of preserving the unity of our country and abidance by the Constitution and Constitutional legitimacy, which were strengthened by the first free, democratic elections on 27 April 1993, as testified by the entire world, foremost of which are the five permanent members of your esteemed council.

Any intervention constitutes an aggression against the Republic of Yemen's unity and regional sovereignty and is unacceptable to our people or the norms of international law, which underline the sovereignty of UN member states.

We urge your esteemed council to advise all states in the region to respect the Republic of Yemen's sovereignty, to strictly abide by international law and the UN Charter, and not to intervene in Yemeni internal affairs, out of concern for world peace and security.

Please distribute this cable to all member states as a UN document. Please accept our best regards.

'Abd-al-Ghani Leaves for UNSC Deliberations

JN3005174994 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 30 May 94

[Text] 'Abd-al-'Aziz 'Abd-al-Ghani, Presidential Council member, has left Sanaa for Amman en route to New York. Before leaving Sanaa International Airport, he made the following statement to the Yemeni News Agency, SABA':

Entrusted by the Presidential Council and the Council of Ministers, I will represent the Republic of Yemen in the UN Security Council [UNSC] deliberations, which were requested by certain states. In this regard, we are interested in explaining the facts as they are to the UN Security Council to ensure that the results of these deliberations will be in harmony with the hopes of our people to preserve the country's unity and democratic march in the face of the conspiracy and malicious attack against unity and democracy by the secessionist elements in the Socialist Party leadership. These elements are trying to reverse history by insisting on returning to the pre-22 May 1990 situation.

We will also brief the UN Security Council on the truth about what is happening in our country. It is an armed rebellion against constitutional legitimacy and a violation of the Constitution and a flagrant attack against citizens and their security and stability. The legitimate agencies' fulfillment of their tasks in the face of the armed rebellion reflect their national and constitutional responsibility to protect the sovereignty and stability of the homeland; it is also an internal affair and no one should interfere in it.

Deputy Prime Minister, UNDP Representative Discuss Aid

JN3005132494 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 30 May 94

[Text] Brother Dr. Muhammad Sa'id al-'Attar, the acting prime minister. today received brother 'Awni al-'Ani, resident representative of the UN Development Program [UNDP] in Sanaa. They discussed cooperation between our country and the UNDP and the urgent aid—including food, clothes, medicine, medical equipment, and electricity generators—which the UNDP is expected to provide to deal with the circumstances facing our country as a result of the crisis fabricated by the secessionist rebels in the Socialist Party leadership.

The UNDP resident representative expressed readiness to provide aid and help in the food and health fields and to revitalize the institutions that sustained damage.

House Urges Arab League To Support Unity

JN3105154294 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 31 May 94

["Text" of a letter from the Yemeni House of Representatives to Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid and the Arab League's permanent representatives on 30 May; place not given—read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. For the scum disappears like froth cast out; while that which is for the good of mankind remains on the earth. [Koranic verse]

Esteemed Brother Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, Arab League secretary general; Esteemed Brother Permanent Delegates: A message of respect and appreciation. Your Yemeni homeland is experiencing critical circumstances as a result of the ordeal imposed by a group of rebels who violated the constitutional legitimacy, represented by 'Ali Salim al-Bid and those with him. The sedition Yemen is experiencing poses grave dangers to Yemen's present, future, unity, democracy, political system, sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity, and cohesion of its sons. At the same time, it is a serious sign not only on the level of the Yemeni homeland but also on the level of the entire Arab homeland's peoples and governments. It also represents a challenge to our Arab League's charter, the international organizations, and the bases on which states were established. However, what calls for happiness and pleasure is that our esteemed House and its members, who represent the Yemeni people, see in our Arab League and in the peoples and governments of its Arab nation both support and assistance designed to champion it and understand its causes as well as a helper and supporter designed to curb the insane adventures of the rebellious secessionists and circumvent both dangers and suffering, exactly as you have always done for this House.

Brother Arab League Secretary General, Brother Permanent Delegates: For our people, the reestablishment of Yemeni unity by setting up the Republic of Yemen on 22 May 1990—unity which all Arabs had the honor of backing and supporting as an Arab experience and a step on the path of fulfilling our Arab nation's great dream of unity—was a pioneering civilized achievement, a normal event, and a simple way to realize both the cohesion of resources and the unification of efforts for development and progress. It was also a reunification of families which were separated by artificial borders during the eras of colonialism and the hateful imamate rule, and which were also scattered by the policy of confrontation during the eras of the resented partition that was due to known reasons by which all capabilities and resources were used in a lengthy conflict. During this conflict, the differences were deepened and the mutual trust was so weakened that its repercussions cannot be measured by time standards. As a result of this conflict, all the Yemeni people paid a dear and doubled price during all the phases of the partition until, after much endurance, the people achieved their objective of unity. For this people, unity was a humanitarian salvation by all standards since there was a project to restore the values of amity, good relations among relatives, and tolerance among brothers and fathers, and also a return to safety and reassurance for the people.

Yemeni unity also represented a civilized project to build a modern Yemeni state based on democracy, political and party pluralism, peaceful sharing of power, justice, equality, respect for rights and freedoms, and supremacy of law. Through this project, the Yemeni people irreversibly disposed of oppression, tyranny, injustice, and persecution. Through this project, the Yemeni people circumvented all the suffering, pains, the catastrophes of time, the bereavement of wives, the wailing of victims, and the destruction of families, which they long suffered in the past as a result of the bloody conflicts and painful armed confrontations throughout more than two decades.

Our esteemed Arab League, along with all Arab brethren, were not far or absent from all this. As the highest body and most important institution, the Arab League worked along with the Arab brethren on the level of states and governments collectively and individually. The Arabs sensed both the ordeal and concerns of their Yemeni brethren, and made efforts to contain the crises, and end and save the people from their ordeal. The Arabs also worked by all means to help the Yemenis achieve their sought objective and safe haven; namely, Yemeni unity.

They also played a great role in extinguishing the fire of war, which broke out from time to time in the country or in each of the two parts of the country. They also worked very eagerly to restore its cohesion by achieving unity. These positions, which the Yemeni people have never forgotten and which will remain as immortal as history in their memory, were adopted by the brothers out of their pan-Arab responsibility, their religious duty, and their true brotherly and human concern and in accordance with the Arab League member states' agreement that led to its establishment and that was included in its charter. This is because they believed that the primary objective of unity of the Arab nation, for which the Arab League was established, should begin in full swing with Yemen, which contains the real seeds of Arab unity and whose land and people have enjoyed unity of doctrine, language, race, and fate since time immemorial and since the creation of the world.

This is what our Arab governments believe within their pan-Arab framework, the Arab League, in line with the Yemeni people's belief, unanimity, and yearning for unity and in harmony with the commitments of all their leaders that assumed power in the so-called two parts of Yemen. In light of this, the Arab League sponsored the first Yemeni unity agreement in 1972, which was worked out under the Arab League's canopy and at its headquarters in Cairo, as well as the ensuing agreements in Tripoli, Algiers, and Kuwait. The committees, which were formed by the leaderships of the two parts at that time, worked for that end. The Constitution of the Republic of Yemen was accomplished in 1981, a Constitution under which Yemen was unified in 1990 and which united the parts of Yemen into one unified Yemeni entity, ending the eras of partition, division, wars, and destruction for good. A referendum was held for the entire people in May 1991, and the first elections were held on the level of the entire homeland in April 1993 based on democracy, political pluralism, and multiparty system, and peaceful rotation of power. The whole world acknowledged these elections' success and fairness and all the forces blessed it.

All the legislations and unionist laws of the one Yemen were issued in accordance with the Constitution, and the government coalition, made up of the General People's Congress, the Yemeni Socialist Party, and the Yemeni Reform Grouping, was formed as a natural result of the elections. The coalition document signed by the three parties contained the basic pillars of the government's program, chief of which was preserving Yemeni unity and democracy. Article 1 of the Constitution stipulates that the Republic of Yemen is an independent and sovereign state, that it is a unity that cannot be divided, that no part can be relinquished, and that the Yemeni people are part of the Arab nation and the Islamic world. In light of this, new interests and relations were reinforced among the sons of the one homeland and on the level of the regions and the governorates.

Arab League Secretary General, Permanent Delegates: You know well that the Yemeni unity did not take place between two peoples, who are prevented by geographic, language, national, cultural, and ideological obstacles from going ahead with their unionist dreams. Neither was it an emotional unity and a mere unification of interests. Rather, it was a unity of a nation that will remain unified in terms of land and people. The partitioning that occurred from time to time as result of colonialism or power struggle was an exception. Those who follow Yemen's old and modern history will discover an eternal unity among the sons of the one Yemeni people, even during the ugly eras. The sons of the Yemeni people were not treated within the framework of the big Yemeni homeland as foreign nationals. On the contrary, the people, the authority, and the successive systems and rulers rejected division and its imposition on the Yemeni people.

Brother Secretary General, Brother Permanent Delegates: Our Yemeni people view Yemeni unity not as just a national and pan-Arab gain but also as their salvation, their life, future, dreams, and hopes. The proof that they deeply cherish unity is by sincerely emphasizing that for them unity is life and that any retraction from it or any harm to it is tantamount to a death sentence and a crime against innocent people who have been aspiring for a united homeland without barriers in which the minds, spirits, and funds will be secure. Our people reject in advance any step that partitions the homeland into entities that have the rank of states, that slices any part of the Republic of Yemen, or that constitutes a deviation from its legal status that was proclaimed on 22 May 1992 and which was recognized worldwide. From this premise, our people refuse any attempt to take the Yemeni issue out of its sound and objective context as a domestic issue, or that will lead them to catastrophes that imperil the one homeland such as the step that was made by those who have rebelled against constitutional

legitimacy, those who have deviated from national consensus, those who have disavowed the homeland and nationalism, the advocates of secession, 'Ali Salim al-Bid and those with him.

Brothers, we do not doubt that our fraternal Arab people, their governments, and their leaders, and our Arab League which has nurtured and blessed Yemeni unity will accept nothing less than the perpetuation of this unity. We also do not believe the Arab League will stifle this unity's objective and dream, will deal it a lethal blow, or pass a death sentence on an entire people, thus definitively ending the Arab League's pan-Arab project, the source of its pride and dignity and the safety valve for its present and future.

We also do not believe that our Arab League and the leaders of fraternal states who enjoy farsightedness will accept al-Bid's treasonous step, or encourage any dangerous and strange act by any adventurer who tries to partition homelands, or permit that a rebel, adventurer, or whimsical person be given the chance to establish a state to satisfy his ego and intransigence, just because he has some military power and harbors evil ambitions to assume power at the expense of homelands and people and in defiance of their options and will. It is really a very grave step that will transform homelands into waste.

As for us, we find no words that are more eloquent than to say that Yemeni unity is our destiny and our fate and that our Yemeni people wherever they are will only agree to unity and will not relinquish it, no matter what this will cost them. Our people view any condoning of the crime by traitor al-Bid and the secessionists who support him in the YSP command and his proclamation as a disavowal of the bonds of amity and the blood relationship, and a violation of conventions such as the Arab League Charter, not to mention that this will be an unjustified interfererence in their domestic affairs, a prolongation of the rebellion and the war whose scope could expand, and a sedition which has no limits.

Our people also view any stand by their brothers that sympathizes with the rebellion as an illogical support for those who have no status or legitimacy and an attempt to impose tutelage on the Yemeni people.

We regret, and you are in a position to know better, that what is taking place in our country is portrayed in a manner that is different from what it really is, or in a way that makes people call it something else. This is because the Yemeni people are one people and there is no place for the word south and north.

As representatives of the Yemeni people, we ask you to act with responsibility, and support legitimacy and unity and not the opposite. We greatly appreciate the support and assistance you have offered in the past for the Yemeni revolution and unity and we thank you for these noble stands. How can we not say this when our Egyptian brothers had sacrificed their lives in support for Yemeni revolution and in trying to unite our people following the liberation of that part of Yemen that was occupied at the time?

In conclusion, you are called upon to place right within its proper place, and to safeguard Yemen. Safeguarding Yemen cannot but be achieved through the preservation of its unity. As for partitioning, it means destruction and continuous wars. We do not believe you will accept this for a Muslim Arab people.

We wish that this letter be considered as an Arab League document and that it will be distributed to the members. We thank you for your understanding of our just cause. Please accept our best regards.

Issued by the House of Representatives in the Republic of Yemen, 30 May 1994

Al-Lawzi on Arab Support, Political Settlement

JN3005100194 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 30 May 94 pp 1, 20

[Article by Lamis al-Barghuthi]

[Excerpts] Sanaa—Yemeni Information Minister Hasan al-Lawzi has praised Jordan's role in the Yemeni crisis. He said that the stand adopted by Jordan—king, government and people—is a principled stand based on the nation's interest in unity. [passage omitted]

On future prospects, the possibility of internationalizing the crisis, and on Arab countries' recognition of the secession, Dr. al-Lawzi said: I do not believe any Arab country will dare to publicly recognize the secession. [passage omitted]

Al-Lawzi said: If some try to create problems abroad for Yemeni unity and legitimacy then the situation will have to be expeditiously settled in a military manner no matter the cost. However, I have to say that there are signs of a political solution through reaching an understanding with the unionist elements within the Yemeni Socialist Party. This factor, in addition to the Yemeni command's desire to avoid large numbers of civilian casualties, postpones the military option. [passage omitted]

Basindwah Issues Statement, Departs for Cairo

JN2805182994 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 28 May 94

[Text] Foreign Minister brother Muhammad Salim Basindwah today left for Cairo on a visit to Egypt. He will convey a message from Lieutenant General brother 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, Presidential Council chairman, to his brother President Husni Mubarak about relations between the two brotherly countries and Yemeni developments. Basindwah will also lead our country's delegation to meetings of foreign ministers of the Nonaligned Movement, set to convene in Cairo from 30 May to 4 June.

Before leaving Sanaa, the foreign minister told SABA' he will take the opportunity of his presence in the Egyptian capital and his attendance at the nonaligned conference to convey a true picture of what is going on in Yemen to as many ministers as possible. He will make the point that no one is out to force unity on others, because unity has been in place for four years. It must be made clear to the world that there is an attempt to force secession on the country and that some quarters try to misrepresent the situation.

The foreign minister hoped the nonaligned conference will produce beneficial decisions for the peoples of the movement.

The Yemeni delegation to the conference includes the under secretary for political affairs at the Foreign Ministry, and other ministry officials.

Basindwah Rejects Charge of Trying To 'Impose' Unity

JN2905110594 Amman AL-ASWAQ in Arabic 29 May 94 pp 1, 13

[Report by Nasir 'Arif in Sanaa]

[Text] Yemeni Foreign Minister Muhammad Basindwah has asserted that the criticism by some people of the legitimate Yemeni Government and their accusations that it is trying, through war, to impose Yemeni unity by force are null and void and lack objectivity because unity has been maintained since 22 May 1990, when a document on merging the Yemeni people was signed.

In an exclusive statement to AL-ASWAQ, the Yemeni foreign minister added that everyone should realize that the [Yemeni] Socialist Party [YSP] continues to work, through war, to impose secession and destroy the Yemeni unity. Thus, it is high time for all our Arab brothers to realize this fact, and they should not ignore the presence of a constitutional legitimacy stemming from the results of the 1993 elections.

Basindwah added: This being the case, no person inside or outside Yemen is allowed to violate the Yemeni people's will as expressed through the polls. He ruled out the possibility that the Yemeni crisis would be discussed during the meetings of the foreign ministers of the Nonaligned Movement which will be held in Cairo, unless the discussion of peoples' internal affairs has become a general right for anyone.

On whether the YSP would succeed in consolidating the secession of the southern part of Yemen, the Yemeni foreign minister said this is no longer possible, especially since the Government forces, in addition to controlling three important governments in the center of the former southern part of Yemen, have managed to impose a complete siege on the places housing the leadership of the YSP secessionists. He added that the leader of secessionists is now fully aware that his project cannot be implemented; otherwise, he would not have fled from Aden to Hadhramaut. If this leader finds himself besieged in Hadhramaut, he will flee outside the country, he added.

Basindwah ruled out the possibility that the fighting raging in Yemen will have future negative repercussions on the border issues in the Arabian Peninsula and the Gulf for the simple reason that the fighting can in no way whatsoever turn into a long-term civil war. With regard to the message that the Yemeni Government is reportedly awaiting from the south, Basindwah said: In fact, we are not awaiting any message from the Socialist Party. However, what should be cautioned about here is the fact that the unionist elements in this party should show courage and condemn the secession decision made by 'Ali Salim al-Bid if they really care for preventing further bloodshed and destruction in Yemen; otherwise, their silence will be interpreted as recognition of this secession declaration.

Asked about his expectations regarding the fate of the Yemeni crisis, Basindwah said: "The truth is that the legitimate forces belonging to the Government will succeed in imposing their control on all Yemeni territory. At that time, the legitimate leadership will undoubtedly open dialogue with the unionist forces, whether in the Socialist Party or in other parties."

Basindwah asserted that the legitimate leadership no longer needs to storm Aden, knowing that the decision to enter it was contingent upon the issuance of a political decision. Now, however, we bet that the citizens of this city will definitely not allow the secessionists to inflict havoc on them. Therefore, I expect that all the sons of Aden will soon arrest the leader of secessionists and his clique, Basindwah said.

[In a similar interview published on pages 1 and 20 of Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic on 29 May, Yemeni Foreign Minister Muhammad Basindwah states that he is carrying a message from Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to Egyptian President Husni Mubarak. The message, he adds, deals with recent Yemeni developments. Basindwah categorically denies that his visit to Cairo is aimed at meeting with certain YSP leaders there.]

Deputy Premier Receives Egyptian, Kuwaiti Envoys

JN2805180594 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 28 May 94

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister brother 'Abd-al-Wahhab al-Anisi received brother 'Ata Harun, the Egyptian ambassador in Sanaa today. They reviewed Yemeni developments and stressed that every effort must be made so Yemen's stability and security are spared. The meeting also addressed bilateral ties. Both noted the need to clear the air of Arab relations.

The deputy prime minister also received brother Mansur 'Abdallah al-'Awadi, the Kuwaiti charge d'affaires in

Sanaa. They discussed Yemeni developments. Both were in agreement as to the need to maintain Yemen's unity, security, and stability. They also underscored the brotherly relations that bind the Yemeni and Kuwaiti peoples.

Speaker al-Ahmar Returns, Notes UAE 'Understanding'

JN2805055594 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0330 GMT 28 May 94

[Text] Brother Shaykh 'Abdallah Bin-Husayn al-Ahmar, speaker of the House of Representatives, and his delegation returned to Sanaa last night following a two-day visit to the United Arab Emirates [UAE].

Brother Shaykh 'Abdallah Bin-Husayn al-Ahmar made a statement to the Yemeni News Agency, SABA', in which he said: During our visit to the sisterly UAE, we met with His Highness Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan, president of the UAE, and a number of officials. We explained to them the reality of the situation in our country. We put them in the picture of the recent developments. We have sensed from His Highness Shaykh Zayid an understanding and a concern for Yemen and its unity and safety.

Former Defense Minister Said Killed in Assault

NC2905064294 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0620 GMT 29 May 94

[Text] Sanaa, 29 May (MENA)—Military sources in Sanaa have stated that Former Defense Minister Brigadier General Haytham Qasim Tahir, who was recently relieved of his post by President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, was killed last week. These sources note that the ousted minister was killed during an offensive by the northern forces on the al-Rahah area in the Lahij Governorate. They said that another number of southern military men were also killed in the same offensive.

Meeting To Support War Effort Nets 63 Million Riyals

JN3005184894 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 30 May 94

[Excerpts] Shaykh 'Abd-al-Majid al-Zandani, Presidential Council member and chairman of the Higher Committee for Receiving Donations, has attended a meeting at the Chamber of Industry and Commerce in Sanaa. The meeting was attended by members of the committee and a host of major businessmen and heads of public, mixed and private commercial and industrial institutions. The meeting was aimed at discussing the issue of supporting the war effort and organizing the process of receiving donations and public support for the effort to defend unity and constitutional legitimacy and to ease the damages resulting from the battles being waged by the forces defending constitutional legitimacy, unity, and democracy.

Speaking at the meeting, Shaykh 'Abd-al-Majid al-Zandani explained that the battle being waged by the Armed Forces—the forces defending legitimacy and unity against the forces that are misled by the gang of apostasy and secession under war criminal 'Ali Salim al-Bid—is a battle that emphasizes adherence to Yemeni unity and rejection of partition. [passage omitted]

Addressing attendees, Shaykh 'Abd-al-Majid al-Zandani said: This meeting is the first step toward public participation and beginning of supporting the war effort. He added: Today, you will set a good example for the people, who know how able you are. If they see that you have made substantial donations, they will undoubtedly follow your example and offer whatever they can.

Shaykh 'Abd-al-Majid al-Zandani stressed that the committee is determined to reach every Yemeni in every governorate, district, subdistrict, and village to tell them: The door for donations is open. Donate whatever you can for the unity of your country. Al-Zandani indicated that the committee will control methods for disbursing collected donations. It will also work to spend donations appropriately. Civilian and military war casualties will be supported. Families of martyrs will be helped. Those who suffered losses will be compensated so as to stress the principle of joint liability. He indicated that there will be women's committees to collect donations from women. [passage omitted]

The Yemeni News Agency, SABA', has learned that the donations declared at the meeting amounted to 63.325 million riyals. [passage omitted]

Northern Tribesmen Release Three Dutch Hostages

NC2805114994 Paris AFP in English 1124 GMT 28 May 94

[Text] Sanaa, May 28 (AFP)—Northern Yemeni tribesmen have released three Dutch hostages they kidnapped two months ago, a Yemeni leader told AFP Saturday [28 May].

The official, who asked to remain anonymous, said two were released late Friday in the Ma'rib region, east of Sanaa and were due to leave Yemen for the Netherlands late Saturday.

A third was freed 10 days earlier because he was in bad health, he said.

The three, Wilbert Elderhorst, Gerard Jeuissen and Jac van der Gun, were working on a project supplying drinking water to the capital Sanaa, when they were seized on March 25 by the Jihm tribe.

More than 20 foreigners have been kidnapped in the past two years in Yemen by different tribes, who use them to put pressure on the government to win material gains.

All have been released unharmed.

Fighting has been raging between rival north and south Yemeni forces since May 5.

Al-Bid: Occupation of Aden Would 'Not Be Easy'

PM3105142494 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 29 May 94 p1

[Report on interview with south Yemeni "President" 'Ali Salim al-Bid by Nura Fakhuri in al-Mukalla; date not given: "Penetration of Aden Would Not Be Easy; I Support Stopping the War, Even Internationally"]

[Excerpt] [Introductory passage omitted] In al-Mukalla, where crows which like Yemen's climate are not much in evidence, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT was granted the first interview to an Arabic publication by President 'Ali Salim al-Bid since the declaration of the Democratic Republic of Yemen [DRY].

On his assessment of the current military and political situations, al-Bid said:

When unity started facing problems we sought dialogue and the quest for solutions with others in a peaceful and democratic way, and that will remain our position. When war was imposed on us we had to defend ourselves. After the agreement was signed, the other side found itself unable to implement it. It was not convinced of the agreement to begin with, and that is why it did what it did. That did not surprise us because he ('Ali 'Abdallah Salih) does not understand that approach. What surprised us was the position of the other forces around him, including the patriotic forces and influential figures we had a dialogue with for long months. How did they agree to go along with him or remain silent after what has happened?

Despite that, we will continue to offer our grounds for dialogue once we finish with this war which was imposed on us and in which our army which was in the north was hit. We are now defending ourselves in our homes after the intensity of the aggression, plunder, looting, and murder reached a climax in Abyan, Shabwah, and every other point they [the northern forces] reached. Militarily, they have not been able to achieve any more than they achieved in the first few days. They are in a to-and-fro situation around Aden at a distance of 70-120 km.

When we said to al-Bid that the figure of 30 km from Aden had been mentioned, he replied:

If they were 30 km from Aden the city would be under relentless artillery fire. Had the city been within the range of their artillery, life would have come to a standstill in Aden but that has not happened.

On the statements made by Yemeni Planning Minister 'Abd-al-Karim al-Iryani and President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih about penetration of Aden and al-Mukalla soon if the negotiations fail, al-Bid laughed and said: They are welcome to try.

On the possibility of penetration and occupation of Aden and al-Mukalla, al-Bid ruled it out, and added: Personally, I have no problem with penetration. How would he maintain his army and occupation if such a penetration did occur?

The problem is not breaching a place but keeping it. Would he be able to do that? We are at war and war is advance and retreat and constant motion, but when the logic of occupation prevails then such occupation is rejected. The people would reject and resist it. It would not then be a question of military balance or of a brigade facing another because the people would reject annexation and occupation and everyone would therefore cooperate with the armed forces. You should bear in mind that it would be very difficult for them to penetrate Aden or al-Mukalla, and if they did, the price would be very high. I do not believe that they would be able to pay such a price. We would resist and it would be difficult for them to pay the price.

Are Aden and al-Mukalla considered red lines?

Al-Bid replied: Yes, they are red lines.

On the initiative submitted to the Security Council and the possibility of UN forces moving in to disengage the combatants, al-Bid said: I am in favor of stopping the war by any means even if that means the entry of UN forces. In this war there is no victor and vanquished. The Yemeni people are the only loser.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has learned that over 3,000 fighters have arrived in Aden from the camps around al-Mukalla, coming from the Shabwah area. They are now being reassembled and redeployed in areas from al-Mukalla to Mayfa'ah in the direction of the city of 'Ataq. The next few days are expected to witness a fierce battle for the recapture of the positions lost by the southern forces in Shabwah.

Al-Bid Visits Injured, Assures of Victory

EA2705204394 Aden Democratic Republic of Yemen Radio Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 27 May 94

[Excerpts] Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, chairman of the Presidential Council and secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party Central Committee, visited a number of injured yesterday who are to be taken abroad for treatment. This is within the framework of the government's concern and interest in the heroes of our brave Armed Forces and the citizens who are defending the sovereignty of the Democratic Republic of Yemen and the dignity and honor of the Yemeni people.

The brother chairman of the Presidential Council saw the conditions of the wounded and wished them a speedy recovery and return to continue their struggle and participate in the building of the Republic and its defense.

Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid commended the heroic and courageous steadfastness of our brave soldiers in collaboration with the sons of our people in the battle of

resistance against the al-Ahmar family which imposed this war on our people to maintain their selfish and narrow interests. [passage omitted]

He assured the wounded that victory would be our ally because we have a cause. Our heroic resistance would teach the military and tribal formations of al-Ahmar family a lesson they would never forget. It would breathe its last at the hands of our armed forces. He pointed out that the victories achieved on the battlefronts prepared the proper conditions for the creation of a better democratic future and would put an end to the obstructions of those influential forces which wished to take us back to the past. [passage omitted]

Al-Bid Issues Decree on Amnesty for 'Misled Ones'

EA2905192994 Aden Democratic Republic of Yemen Radio Network in Arabic 1650 GMT 29 May 94

[Text] Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, chairman of the Presidential Council, today issued Republican Decree No. 5 for 1994 concerning a general amnesty for the misled ones [al-mugharrari bihim]. The first article of the decree provides for a general amnesty for all those who have been misled, and who have participated, directly or indirectly, in exploding the situation militarily, and in committing aggression against the Democratic Republic of Yemen. It also amnesties the sons of the areas against which aggression has been committed, who were forced by circumstances or concern about their own safety and lives to work against the sons of their own areas, their tribes, and their state.

The second article of the decree provides for the regularization of the status of those mentioned in the abovementioned first article, if they join in the defense of the Democratic Republic of Yemen, in emulation of their colleagues.

The third article of the decree states that the decree takes effect from the date of its issuance, and that it shall be published in the official gazette.

Al-Bid Thanks UAE President for Peace Efforts

EA3105105094 Aden Democratic Republic of Yemen Radio Network in Arabic 0330 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] Presidential Council Chairman Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid had a telephone conversation last night with his brother, His Highness al-Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the fraternal state of the United Arab Emirates [UAE]. They discussed the Yemeni situation and current efforts to tackle it.

Brother 'Ali Salim al-bid expressed his appreciation for the sincere efforts and honest initiatives of al-Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan to stop the bloodshed and infighting between brothers and to achieve peace and stability in all parts of the Yemeni homeland. He expressed our people's feelings of pride and appreciation of His Highness al-Shaykh Zayid's stand and his good efforts to preserve Yemeni stability and security.

'Source' Denies Aden Proposed Unconditional Cease-Fire

LD2905120694 Kuwait Radio Kuwait in Arabic 1000 GMT 29 May 94

[Text] Aden radio broadcast a statement this morning by a responsible source in the Democratic Republic of Yemen—which has been declared in the south—denying Sanaa's assertion that officials in the Yemeni Socialist Party have proposed an unconditional ceasefire in Yemen.

The source declared that Aden insists on two basic conditions for a cease-fire. These are the withdrawal of all northern forces to positions behind the previous borders between the two parts of Yemen, and the holding of direct talks with the Aden government.

Southern Envoy Expects UNSC Call for Cease-Fire

NC2905133694 Paris AFP in English 1200 GMT 29 May 94

[Report by Nadim Kawash]

[Text] Abu Dhabi, May 29 (AFP) - An envoy from breakaway south Yemen said on Sunday [29 May] he expected the United Nations Security Council [UNSC] to call for a ceasefire in the next few days.

"I expect the Security Council to discuss the Yemeni problem in the next few days and to issue a resolution calling for a ceasefire," the envoy, Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas, told AFP before flying to Kuwait. "The resolution will be binding to all parties and we are ready to stick to it. I think it is in the interest of the Yemeni people to halt the war," he said.

Al-'Attas, envoy of southern leader 'Ali Salim al-Bid who proclaimed a separate state on May 21, met United Arab Emirates (UAE) President Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan and briefed him on the four-week war. The official news agency WAM said he expressed appreciation of the UAE leaders role to stop hostilities between the south and the north.

Al-'Attas, referred to by WAM as envoy of President al-Bid, has also visited Saudi Arabia, Syria and other Arab states and will fly to Bahrain after Kuwait. Sources close to him said he might later go to Aden.

Al-Attas's comments coincided with press statements by UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali that he would send an envoy to Yemen after a ceasefire to help reconcile warring parties and restore unity. The secretary general said contacts were underway among Security Council members as well as with Arab countries involved in Yemeni mediation to discuss the civil strife and issue a resolution on a ceasefire.

"I hope the Security Council will issue a resolution calling on the Yemeni parties to halt hostilities and to ask the UN secretary general to send a special envoy on a fact-finding mission so the United Nations will try to reconcile the two parties within the framework of the Yemeni unity," he told the United Arab Emirates semi-official daily AL-ITTIHAD. "I will assign an envoy who will be trusted by the two warring parties. He will start contacts in Yemen once a ceasefire is enforced."

Yemen's northern leaders, battling rivals in the south since May 5, have rejected any UN role in the crisis on the grounds it is an internal affair.

Egypt, Saudi Arabia and four Gulf Arab states have asked the Security Council to discuss the war and call for a ceasefire to pave the way for a dialogue. "From my contacts with the concerned parties, they could agree on putting the Yemeni issue to UN debate and on a resolution on the crisis," Butrus-Ghali said. "If we assume there is opposition from some parties, the Security Council has the authority to issue such a resolution. But I am hopeful the warring parties will realise that it is in their interest to cooperate with the Security Council."

He said he had discussed the Yemeni war with US President Bill Clinton and sought his support for peaceful efforts. "President Clinton agreed in principle that the Security Council issue a resolution on a ceasefire in Yemen," he said.

Al-'Attas: South Yemen 'Government' To Be Announced

NC2705192394 London MBC Television in Arabic 1800 GMT 27 May 94

[Interview with Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas, the "newly appointed prime minister" of South Yemen, by Salwa Sabri in Damascus; date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Sabri] Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas, who has been charged with forming a government in the Democratic Republic of Yemen [DRY], proclaimed last Saturday, has announced that the government will be formed as soon as he returns to Yemen and that he is currently having consultations for that purpose.

[Al-'Attas] Since the Presidential Council decided to entrust me with forming the government, I have been having consultations with various parties. God willing, we will announce the new government of the DRY as soon as I return.

The steps taken by the leadership of the southern sector of Yemen seeks to end the war and prevent the disintegration of Yemen. War is one of the hazards of that disintegration.

[Sabri] Which parties will take part in this government?

[Al-'Attas] Consultations are going on with a number of parties, including the League of the Sons of Yemen Party, the National Yemeni Grouping, some independent figures, Nasirites, and a number of other parties.

[Sabri] Al-'Attas announced that he had gained considerable support from the states he visited for the efforts of the Yemeni leadership in Aden to stop the ongoing war and resume a political dialogue.

On Aims of New 'Government'

NC2705220894 London MBC Television in Arabic 2100 GMT 27 May 94

[Text] In an exclusive statement to the MBC Television, Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas has stated that the government he has been charged with forming aims to end the war and to prevent the disintegration of Yemen. He stressed that contacts are under way with parties and independent people in the south to form a government.

[Begin recording] [Al-'Attas] By taking this step, we hope to prevent disintegration and to maintain the situation that existed before unity was established on 22 May 1990, that is the existence of two states in Yemen. In light of the bitter experience of unity over the past four years we can examine this experiment and its problems and mistakes and lay down the foundations to make things right.

[Question] What is the working program of this government?

[Al-'Attas] The main task is first to implement the Pledge and Accord Document which enjoys national consensus in Yemen and which was endorsed after being formulated by various political forces. Within the framework of this task, we must remove the effects of the war which has destroyed numerous establishments and left a great deal of damage in the hearts of the people. We must act to remove these effects.

[Question] You have visited the United States, Britain, Egypt, and now Syria, did you gain support from these countries for your stances?

[Al-'Attas] Certainly, in all our meetings in the United States, Egypt, and Syria we felt considerable support for the efforts being made in the Democratic Republic of Yemen to halt the war and address the damage, primarily to end this war which is destroying our people and exposing them to the danger of disintegration.

[Question] Thus, there is hope for establishing a unified Yemen in the future. What are the foundations on which Yemen must be built?

[Al-'Attas] During the national dialogue we emphasized the principle that resorting to war would mean striking at unity. This war that was declared by the military leadership in Sanaa has struck at the Yemeni unity. However, the failure of this unity now does not mean that the goal is gone, or removed from our national tasks. We must assess the situation, pause, and look to the future with optimism.

[Question] In Cairo, you requested placing the Yemeni crisis on the UN Security Council agenda. What do you expect from the Security Council?

[Al-'Attas] As an international organization responsible for security, stability, and peace in the world, we expect it to take the necessary measures and pass resolutions to halt the bloodshed and the ongoing war. We have great confidence that the Security Council members and the permanent members will make a decision to stop this war. [end recording]

Aden Radio Announces Beginning of 'Real War'

EA2805192194 Aden Democratic Republic of Yemen Radio Network in Arabic 1650 GMT 28 May 94

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] A warning: He who has warned is not to be blamed. He who has warned is not to be blamed. He who has warned is not to be blamed. [repeated three times as heard] After today, after these moments, after we have drawn the attention of others, after we have warned, after we have advised, after today, after this moment, we say it in regret: He who has warned is not to be blamed. He who has warned is not to be blamed. [repeated twice as heard] After today, after these moments, after all our appeals, demands, and warnings, he who has warned is not to be blamed. We say this to the sergeant and to those who have been standing by his side until this day, and until this moment: Everything, as declared by our president, the president of the Democratic Republic of Yemen, the militant and patient patriot, 'Ali Salim al-Bid, everything until today is [word indistinct] since we have drawn the attention of others, since we have demanded, and since we have warned—we are compelled, regrettably, to declare the beginning of the real war. As far as we are concerned it is the same to us, the war has begun, the real war will begin. After today we shall exterminate anyone who is arrogant. We shall destroy anyone who still dreams about the south. God be our witness. He who has warned is not to be blamed.

Call to Aden Residents Says 'Hour of Salvation' Near

JN3105095994 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0755 GMT 31 May 94

[Unattributed "Important Call" to Aden's population]

[Text] To the steadfast and the patient in al-Mu'alla, (?al-Sawahi), Shaykh 'Uthman, Khormaskar, and (?Kuraykar); to the worthy unionists: The hour of salvation from the band of treachery, treason, and machination—the gang of apostasy and secession commanded by the professional criminal, the killers of women, children, and the elderly, 'Ali Salim al-Bid, who, on 13 January, 1986 ascended to power on rivers of blood in Aden's streets and the skulls of your fathers, brothers, and children —is drawing near.

Brothers and sisters in unionist Aden: The army of unity, democracy, and constitutional legality now stands poised at the approaches of the patient Aden to rid you of this tyrannical coterie in the Socialist Party leadership and cleanse it of the squalor of this mutinous gang that has been fiddling with the city and its population, violating sacred values, appropriating your freedom and rights, nationalizing your property, and authorizing the shedding of the blood of your fathers, brothers, and sisters.

To the worthy population of the proud city of Aden: Be the red-hot spears of unity, democracy, and constitutional legality that pierce the chests of the traitors, agents, and plotters of the gang of apostasy and secession. Reach out to your brothers and sons in the forces of unity and democracy and constitutional legality, who are coming to you in response to your unionist and patriotic appeal to be saved from this murderous gang that has spread corruption and played havoc with the land and people and hatched plots against your unity, security, stability, and freedom that was restored to you by the young unitary state on 22 May, 1990, after you had been denied them for the 27-year duration of the rule of this rotten gang that can only live in a quagmire of repression, terror, agentry, conspiracy, sacrilege, disregard for women's honor, and looting and confiscating property.

Brother officers and soldiers of the military in our precious city of Aden: In unity lies your dignity, freedom, and salvation from the cycle of revolutionary violence. Be the first ranks of the soldiers of unity and democracy and constitutional legality. Pound the strongholds of the murderous gang in the city of Aden, and reduce them to rubble, because this battle is your battle, this is your hour, and time is on your side. Do not believe the ravings and hallucinations that the gang of apostasy and secession has been spewing from Aden radio since it took office 27 years ago.

Brothers and sisters, fathers and mothers, sons and daughters in our beloved Aden: The forces of unity, democracy, and constitutional legality are jealous of your women's honor, your blood, freedom, property, security, and stability, and dignity. You are called upon to be the best support and guide for these forces. Act as their seeing eye and their hand that hits the remnants of the gang of apostasy and secession. Disgrace to the forces of apostasy and secession; victory and glory to the homeland, unity, and constitutional legality.

Tahir Visits Hospital, Says Troops in Good Spirits

EA2905193894 Aden Democratic Republic of Yemen Radio Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 29 May 94

[Text] Brother Staff Brigadier General Haytham Qasim Tahir, the defense minister, carried out an inspection tour this afternoon at the Ba Suhayb Military Hospital, during which he visited a number of those wounded during the war imposed by 'Ali Abdallah Salih on our people and homeland. During his visit to the wounded,

and his inspection of the hospital, the brother defense minister gave instructions on the care to be extended to the wounded. He gave instructions that the hospital be supplied with everything it required to enable it to provide the sick and wounded with optimal services.

Following his visit to the Ba Suhayb Military Hospital, Staff Brigadier General Haytham Qasim Tahir replied to questions posed to him by a number of correspondents. He told them that the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of Yemen had won a number of victories on all battlefronts, and that all the fighters enjoyed high morale in repulsing the aggressive forces of the bloody al-Ahmar clan.

'Presidential Council': North Using 'Misled' Citizens

EA2905202394 Aden Democratic Republic of Yemen Radio Network in Arabic 1600 GMT 29 May 94

[Statement issued by the "Yemeni Presidential Council of the Democratic Republic of Yemen"; place and date not given]

[Excerpt] The regime in Sanaa is attempting to use some of the sons of the Democratic Republic of Yemen, to mislead them and exploit the effects of previous differences, as well as to plant strife in their ranks. This is a matter cherished by the leaders of the Sanaa regime. All this is done to make it possible for the regime in Sanaa to use them in its aggression against their areas and people, and consequently deepen the wounds of the sons of the same area, the same tribe, and the same family.

The Sanaa regime does not care about any ideals or religion in order to reach its objectives. Will the misled ones accept that the honor of their women be violated in their areas, their dignity trampled upon, and their possessions looted, as happened in some areas? Did the misled ones not think about how they were treated before the crisis? The leaders of the regime in Sanaa are not above causing strife between tribes and personalities in the areas surrounding Sanaa. Money and weapons have been provided so that a brother can kill his brother, and plant strife between the tribes to dominate them all, instead of planting love and affection among the sons of the same people, and spending resources on construction and the establishment of services. All this is known to the sons of the Yemeni people in the north, and this will always be with them until they get rid of the leaders of this domineering regime.

Everybody knows that the leaders of the Sanaa regime have established their regime based on domination, discrimination, and arrogance. They look at others as subservient to them, not as honorable people. Today they consider their aggression against the Democratic Republic of Yemen as a matter of occupation and domination, not as a matter of unity, as they claim.

We wish to confirm to all the sons of our people, and particularly those who have been misled from the sons of the Democratic Republic of Yemen, that the regime of the Democratic Republic of Yemen is becoming more firmly established every day. We were the ones who advocated unity, but on the basis of equality, justice, democracy, and national unity. In this we adhere to the basis of the pledge and accord document, and not to the basis of accepting control, domination, imposition, corruption, discrimination in citizenship, and the buying of people. We aim, God willing, to establish a state of discipline and law and order, a state of equality and justice, and a state of stability and prosperity.

When a regime is established in Sanaa on a similar basis, we will unite with it. Our hearts are open and our hands extended to the sons of the Democratic Republic of Yemen, to work together under a new regime, in which there will be no domination by one group over another. We shall build together and live together a stable and secure life. This is impossible with a regime such as the current one in Sanaa.

It is on the basis of the foregoing that we appeal to the misled ones, and to all those compelled to take part in the aggression against their people and their country, to listen to reason and to be aware that their fate and future are linked to the fate of their people and areas. The domineering regime in Sanaa will not always be there for them, but will use them for its domineering objectives and later will expel and humiliate them, as is its habit. However, first it will involve them in the killing of their people and brothers. There will be nothing for them except the Democratic Republic of Yemen, which keeps its arms open for all its honorable and patriotic sons to take part in its construction and development, and enjoy its blessings. [passage omitted]

Al-Jifri: Northern Entry Into Aden 'Impossible'

EA3005205594 Aden Democratic Republic of Yemen Radio Network in English 1600 GMT 30 May 94

[Text] Mr. 'Abd-al-Rahman al-Jifri, the vice chairman of the Presidential Council, said that 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih had begun the secession when he declared the war on the south. He said in a telephone call with the Kuwaiti AL-SIYASAH newspaper today that it is impossible for 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to enter Aden and that his forces are suffering from the shortage in water and foods. He added that the northerners looked at the unity as occupation and occupation is rejected.

Mr. 'Abd-al-Rahman al-Jifri pointed to the contradictions in 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih's stand. He sought for an Arab solution to Iraq's occupation of Kuwait in 1990 and now rejects the possible Arab solution to the Yemen crisis. Al-Jifri said there is no return to the unity with those who look for control and occupation, saying that DY [Democratic Yemen] has vast stocks of weapons and food supplies, while the north suffers from shortages in fuel and wheat.

On 'Ali 'Abdaliah's conditions to stop the fighting in return for cancellation of the declaration of the Republic,

al-Jifri said: There is no discussion of the cancellation of the Democratic Republic of Yemen.

Al-Jifri Says No Contacts Made With Sanaa

EA3105110594 Aden Democratic Republic of Yemen Radio Network in Arabic 0330 GMT 31 May 94

[Statement issued by 'Abd-al-Rahman 'Ali al-Jifri, vice chairman of the Presidential Council, to the YEMENI NEWS AGENCY in Aden; date not given]

[Text] The news media of the aggressive regime in Sanaa have made it a habit to broadcast statements from some of the regime's stooges about contacts the regime claims have been made with those it calls the unionists in the Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP] and saying that the totalitarian regime in Sanaa is on the brink of reaching agreement with them. We wish to categorically confirm the following:

In the YSP there are no unionists or separatists. All are unionists led by Brother President 'Ali Salim al-Bid who worked for unity and voluntarily signed the union agreement. The issue of contacts with any quarter whatsoever could only be legitimate if they are made with the official state establishments of the Democratic Republic of Yemen. The Sanaa regime has not made any such contacts with any state establishments of the Democratic Republic of Yemen. The YSP Political Bureau clarified this issue in an official statement issued on 28 April.

These allegations by the Sanaa regime are intended to cause confusion since that regime has failed militarily and politically to achieve its dreams of hegemony, domination, and occupation. We are not advocates of war but advocates of peace and shall defend the Democratic Republic of Yemen and the lives, possessions, and honor of its men and women, its people. We are able, God permitting, to do all this.

We support a permanent cease-fire to save our country and our brothers from destruction and bloodletting. This can be followed by negotiations between the Democratic Republic of Yemen and the Sanaa regime to define future relations between the two states.

We are advocates of unity but not on the basis of the former unity. When a regime emerges in Sanaa believing in justice, equal citizenship, human rights and all the ideals we cherish and contained in the pledge and accord document, we shall then discuss the issue of unity with that regime.

YSP's Yahya 'Would Welcome' Dialogue With Sanaa

PM3005105194 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 27 May 94 p 2

[Unattributed report: "Anis Hasan Yahya Tells AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: The Declaration of Democratic Yemen Does Not Mean Abandoning the Cause of Unity"; all quotation marks as published]

[Text] London, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT—Anis Hasan Yahya, member of the Political Bureau of the Yemeni Socialist Party and speaker of the provisional National Salvation Assembly (parliament of the Democratic Republic of Yemen [DRY]), has stated that "Democratic Yemen's application to join the Arab League is a legitimate and fair step after this war was imposed on us. He added that the emergence of the DRY does not at all mean abandoning unity. He pointed out that the Pledge and Accord Document categorically emphasizes adherence to Yemeni unity and the importance of restoring unity on democratic and sound basis."

In reply to questions by AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT about Sanaa's interest in holding dialogues with what it called the moderates in the YSP in pursuit of peaceful solutions that would bring about a cease-fire and put an end to the current crisis, Yahya said: "That interest in a dialogue with the moderates is not without sinister motives, but despite that, the YSP would welcome such a dialogue and is willing to provide negotiators who place the higher interests of the people and the homeland above all other considerations.

He stressed the importance of stopping that destructive war and the need for the attacking forces—a clear reference to the northern forces—to return to their pre-May 22, 1990 positions. Yahya said that the call for an end to the war was a public and just demand. He added that to ensure that and prevent more bloodshed and destruction, the northern forces must return to their previous positions. Once that is done, he said, a call could be made for an immediate start of the negotiations without prior conditions, and all issues could be raised at the negotiating table and addressed with open minds.

[Yemeni Planning Minister] Dr. 'Abd-al-karim al-Iryani said the day before yesterday that the initiative presented by 'Abd-al-Rahman al-Jafri, deputy chairman of the (southern) Presidential Council, and Anis Hasan Yahya was "another form of secession," and that "al-Jafri has no authority or legitimacy," but Yahya reaffirmed the need to stop this war. He said: "What is happening in our country is no longer an internal Yemeni affair. It is an Arab affair because the effects of the war will extend to the region and undermine its security and stability."

He called for Arab League participation in such open and unconditional negotiations.

He said that Arab League states' recognition of the DRY is the natural and expected thing but requires the efforts of all the Arab brothers to understand the background and dimensions of the declaration of the new republic.

He added that "such recognition would put a final end to the current war in Yemen for which the Yemeni people are paying a high price and in which the Yemeni people are the only loser."

YSP Condemns al-Iryani's 'Misleading' Statements

EA2805210694 Aden Democratic Republic of Yemen Radio Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 28 May 94

[Statement issued by the YSP Political Bureau; place and date not given]

[Text] Statements by 'Abd-al-Karim al-Iryani, the planning and development minister, have been repeated for the second day, declaring that the battlefronts are quiet in anticipation of talks with accredited elements in the YSP. Al-Iryani, whose name has been linked with this war and who is one of its advocates, planners, and enthusiasts, is sparing no effort—after his artillery war was silenced on different battlefronts by the action of the steadfast people and the heroes from the army of the Democratic Republic of Yemen and its brave soldiers—to seek new exits and misleading excuses, in view of the predicament in which the Sanaa authorities find themselves, through convoluted and repetitive statements about negotiations with what he calls the moderate group of the YSP. This reflects the misleading style northern leaders have followed in the past concerning stopping the war and saving Yemen from destruction. Instead of responding to calls and patriotic, arab, and international appeals, al-Iryani has proceeded to burn his smelly incense in the holocaust of death imposed on the Yemeni people by him and those like him from among the war advocates.

He has been aiming to tear apart the YSP from the first day of the union by base methods. YSP militants and the people are well aware of these methods, which are well known, and which al-Iryani is now using again at this time when the Yemeni people are aspiring for a serious stand on the war, instead of this deceptive misleading style, which carries with it the decision to continue this destructive war.

This party, which announced its initiative to stop the war on the first day that the war was touched off by the Sanaa rulers, continues to adhere to its stand, which rejects and [word indistinct] the war [words indistinct] by all standards. [passage indistinct]

The responsibility for the political situation brought about by the war must be borne by those who touched it off. The party, with its political, social, patriotic, and popular allies, will face this situation together in the same manner that it rejects the war, which it condemns. It calls for the immediate cessation of this war, the withdrawal of forces, and peaceful negotiations. Those who imposed the war must bear responsibility for it. Those on whom the war has been imposed have no alternative but to defend themselves and their homeland against the arrogance of the war criminals, who are smeared with the blood of the innocent sons of our homeland and great people. God gives us success.

Citizens Urged Not To Respond To Missile Attacks

EA2905190594 Aden Democratic Republic of Yemen Radio Network in English 1600 GMT 29 May 94

[Text] An official source in the Interior Ministry in the capital, Aden, has appealed to the citizens in the governorate not to open fire unnecessarily when our land defenses carry out their national duty of repelling the missiles which are launched against the populated targets. He pointed out that random opening of fire causes more inconvenience to citizens.

Aden Radio Denies Pro-North Demonstration in Suqutrah

EA2905191494 Aden Democratic Republic of Yemen Radio Network in Arabic 1400 GMT 29 May 94

[Text] Brother Sa'id Salim Ba-huqaybah, the commissioner of the province of Suqutrah, has denied allegations by the bloody al-Ahmar gang's radio in Sanaa that a public demonstration was witnessed in Suqutrah. The radio claimed that the demonstration supported Sanaa's legitimacy. Brother Ba-huqaybah told the Yemeni news agency, SABA', in Aden, that there was absolutely no truth to those claims. The truth was that the masses in the province organized a demonstration on the morning of 26 May in which they declared their support for the establishment of the Democratic Republic of Yemen. He pointed out that the participants in the demonstration sent a cable of support, in the name of the masses and all the civil and military institutions in the province, to the brother chairman and members of the Presidential Council, in which they expressed their full and absolute support for the young Republic. In the cable they strongly condemned the bloody war sparked off by the bloody al-Ahmar gang, under the leadership of that ignorant shedder of blood, 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, against the sons of our Yemeni people.

Former Southern President Voices Support for Unity

JN3005055694 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 29 May 94

[Excerpts] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, former secretary general of the [Yemeni] Socialist Party [and former South Yemeni President] addressed a cable to the brother Presidential Council chairman. Following is the text:

Your Excellency Brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, Presidential Council chairman, may God keep you. [passage omitted]

We strongly believe that there is still motivation for unity, that there will be no future without unity, and that defeat is awaiting all those who antagonize it, represented in the tendencies that are opposed to unity and democracy.

We are fully confident that the unified state is the only way to confront every crisis and failure in any field. It is also the sole way to deal with both large and small mistakes. It can contain all negative results of this war and fighting between brothers. The values of unity, democracy, and life will triumph forever.

Unity is the cause of life and destiny for our people in Yemen. It is the cause of generations and the future, and it is not linked to individuals, therefore, we are confident that our people will not allow the reversal of unity and the return to the stage before 22 May 1990. [Word indistinct] their strong and unwavering faith in unity as a source of strength and dignity that concerns their future and development.

Finally, we assure you and our people of our principled and firm support for Yemeni unity, democracy, and the ambitions of our Yemeni people to realize their happy unionist society.

We wish your excellency continued good health and happiness, and accept our sincerest greetings.

[Signed] Your brother President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad

Aden Radio Says Sanaa Authorities Impose Censorship

EA3005190094 Aden Democratic Republic of Yemen Radio Network in Arabic 1400 GMT 30 May 94

[Text] Reports from Sanaa say the ruling regime there is imposing very strict censorship on the internal and external news media to effect a comprehensive media blackout about what is going in the country. The regime there has resorted to supplying the external news media only with information the regime wants published.

Meanwhile, reports indicate that the military authorities in Sanaa have resorted in the last few days to sabotaging the reception boosters of the transmissions of Democratic Republic of Yemen television and jamming its radio broadcasting. This is to avoid the scandals affecting the Sanaa news media because they are broadcasting lies to the citizens and hiding the military failures of the Sanaa forces on the battlefronts.

It is known that the military authorities issued orders to close down the YEMEN TIMES just two days after 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih sparked the war. This was done after the paper published information and figures on the number of the victims of the war. Amnesty International protested against this step, which targets the freedom of the press about which the ruling regime in Sanaa boasts. Amnesty International and human rights organizations have also protested the demolition of a number of political party headquarters, including the Yemeni Socialist Party's Central Committee headquarters, which was completely demolished. The offices of its Central Committee newspaper were also destroyed within the framework of the feverish activities of the ruling regime in Sanaa to silence all opposition.

Sanaa Said To Press Youths Into Armed Forces

EA3005190594 Aden Democratic Republic of Yemen Radio Network in Arabic 1400 GMT 30 May 94

[Text] The sons of our Yemeni people continue to reject the destructive war which the Sanaa regime insists on continuing to drive (?large numbers) of youth people into the holocaust of death and destruction. Reports confirm that many citizens have begun to refuse to send off their sons to the battlefronts to fight their brothers in the Democratic Republic of Yemen. The regime's organs in Sanaa have resorted to brutal and repressive methods such as those used by the military police, which subjects those refusing their orders to threats and [words indistinct]. In this fashion, the authorities killed the sons of a shaykh in al-Hudaydah Governorate as a way of terrorizing the citizens and forcing them to obey the orders of the repressive authorities in Sanaa.

Party Leader's House Reportedly 'Stormed,' 'Searched'

EA3105121494 Aden Democratic Republic of Yemen Radio Network in Arabic 2045 GMT 30 May 94

[Text] The Yemeni Unionist Alliance Party has stated that the house of brother Muhammad Abduh Nu'man, the founder of the party, has been stormed and searched in Sanaa. Some of his possessions were looted. The statement said this must be considered as the beginning of a unique type of terrorism, oppression, and arbitrariness.

In an official statement issued by its secretariat general, and distributed in Aden yesterday, the Yemeni Unionist Alliance Party said that it was not really concerned about television interviews with some of its members or the issuing of statements which did not come from its leadership. It stressed that the party ranks everywhere were first for stopping the war and then forming a modern union based on the pledge and accord document.

'Rejection' of Proposed UN Resolution Praised

JN3005162394 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1225 GMT 30 May 94

[Report on Sanaa AL-THAWRAH editorial of 30 May; from the "News Follow-Ups" program]

[Text] In its editorial today, AL-THAWRAH comments on the attempts to circumvent the Yemeni legitimacy and will. The paper says: Some quarters' attempts to circumvent the Yemeni will came in the wake of recent national developments which proved that the Yemeni state has restored its influence and prestige in the face of the secessionists' attempts to exhaust the state and weaken its capabilities and authorities during these past months of the crisis, which is part of a foreign and domestic scheme to exhaust Yemen and dismember its new democratic entity. Hence, the suspicious moves are a reaction to Yemen's ability to maintain its unity in the

face of the most difficult and critical circumstances. They are also an attempt to reverse the negative results of the unity enemies' wagers on dismembering Yemen through igniting a comprehensive war and involving the people in a civil strife. However, this attempt has ended in utter failure.

Yemen has emerged from its bitter experience like the sphinx from the ashes. Everyone, here and abroad, has come to the conclusion that the unity and the state of law and order are neither theories nor slogans intended for boasting. Rather, they a realistic and firm fact that possesses all requirements of progress, self-protection, and survival throughout Yemen. This has been proved by the recent confrontation of the secession drama. The entire international community has come to realize that the director and characters of this drama are thieves and advocates of terrorism. Thus, the unity remained while they hid themselves like rats to look for new pretexts to destroy this national entity.

The paper adds: When Yemen appeared before the world as a state with a fair cause, the international community understood the peculiarity of the recent events and the intentions of the forces fanning the war and the secessionist drive. Those forces, after they wagered on erasing Yemen from the map, were stunned to see Yemen rising to confront the challenges with greater ability than they anticipated.

Although the UN Security Council permanent member states' efforts have exposed some parties' malicious intentions, what is reassuring is that throughout its history, the United Nations has never supported any secessionist trend in any country. States' domestic affairs are respected by the permanent UN Security Council member states. The U.S., British, and French representatives' rejection of the draft resolution proposed by some states served as a political reprimand. This rejection also exposed some parties' desire to punish Yemen for its unity, faith in democracy, and respect for human rights. Hence the UN Security Council representatives' emphasis on the need to respect Yemeni unity, maintain its constitutional institutions, preserve the democratic course of the Republic of Yemen, and to resolve differences through peaceful means, considering that what is going on in Yemen is a domestic affair. In this context, brother 'Abdallah al-Ashtal, Yemeni permanent UN representative, cautioned that any initiative that does not emphasize Yemeni unity and compliance with constitutional legitimacy is completely rejected and deemed interference in Yemeni internal affairs.

Concluding its editorial, AL-THAWRAH says: This serious strife has made it clear to the world that in the course of the war imposed on Yemen, all attempts of custodianship have been foiled. Those who are concerned for the interests of their peoples and states should realize that Yemen will devote its efforts to comprehensive development now that it has become in possession of all that is needed to protect it. We will bless others' moves to defend their states' sovereignty and development programs. Yemen, which knows the dangers of destruction, is fully aware of the importance of development. Our entire people are confronting the secessionist war. This proves that the entire Yemeni people and their Armed Forces totally believe that defending unity and supporting the constitutional legitimacy are the only way to secure economic and social construction and national development.

The will of our one people in the Republic of Yemen and the forces of constitutional legitimacy have triumphed. We are well aware of the facts of history. It has never happened in the history of the Security Council that it supported any secessionist movements or groups. Rather, the Security Council supported Nigeria's efforts when it confronted a secessionist group in the early seventies. It also supported Congo against the separation of one of its regions in the sixties. According to UN officials, it has never happened in the history of the United Nations that it interfered in any country's domestic affairs. Yemeni unity has been achieved by the will of the entire Yemeni people. If there is a small clique attempting to impose its secessionist ideas on the majority of the Yemeni people, the Yemeni people have every right to address their domestic problems in a manner that preserves their unity, security, and stability.

Radio Views Positions of 'Certain' States

JN3005151194 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 30 May 94

[Station commentary]

[Text] From the moment the secessionist rebels started the fire of the all-out war in Yemen, certain strange positions emerged. These positions raise questions regarding the hidden intentions and reasons of those who adopted them.

The UN Security Council member states have announced that they back and support the Yemeni unity. This stand was based on the fact that the world community as a whole has recognized the Republic of Yemen as a single political entity. However, very regrettably, we began to hear whispers, and smell something strange, that defy the legal and historical facts regarding the formation of the Republic of Yemen from certain countries despite their recognition of it.

Yemen is not like other countries that have racial, religious, and ethnic problems. Paradoxically enough, we hear at this stage some people trying to compare the Syrian-Egyptian unity to the Yemeni unity. Here, we do not have to list the excuses and proof of the invalidity of such thinking. All Arabs know very well the difference between Yemen's unity and the Syrian-Egyptian unity.

But as much as we are concerned for our unity, we the Yemenis are looking forward to the achievement of the comprehensive Arab unity. On the other hand, the

Yemeni unity, which is supposed to form the cornerstone for a regional and, consequently, an Arab unity should win the support of every Arab everywhere. Thanks be to God, the brothers in most of the Arab states and the Asian and African Muslim states, as well as our friends in Europe, America, and Asia—chief of which are the UN Security Council permanent member states—support the Yemeni unity and constitutional legitimacy, which exemplifies the effectiveness of democracy and political pluralism.

Based on the above, we can say that the rebels who are pursued by the constitutional legitimacy, the authority of the Yemeni unity, are mere gangsters who violated the national unanimity. The forces of unity and constitutional legitimacy have the right to mete out to them the punishment stipulated by the Constitution and the state laws. This is a right of sovereignty and no one has an excuse to interfere in the internal affairs of the Republic of Yemen since what is going on is an internal matter.

The position of the UN Security Council permanent member states was fair and dominant and it should be followed by other countries. It is wrong to think otherwise. It is also wrong to view the Yemeni affair as an Arab or world affair. We say this despite our appreciation of the concern over stability in our country displayed by our brothers and friends.

It should be known to those who present themselves as sympathizers with the Yemeni people's causes and affairs that those who do not respect or appreciate these people's unity are mistaken and are taking risks in matters that run counter to the Arab League Charter, the UN Charter, and the international law.

The Republic of Yemen, which the entire world community, without exception, had recognized, is a united political entity with no religious, ethnic, or religious problems, and with no problems that can infringe on its unity or sovereignty. The current conflict is between the state authorities, represented by the constitutional legitimacy, and the rebel forces of treachery and secession.

Our Yemeni people, who are united in religion, language, values, traditions, and direction are able to foil all schemes regardless of their source. God will grant us victory over the gang of apostasy and secession, who rebelled against the constitutional legitimacy and the enemies of the Yemeni people and their freedom, dignity, and progress.

Ground-to-Ground Missile Attacks on Aden Continue

EA2705191494 Aden Democratic Republic of Yemen Radio Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 27 May 94

[Text] A responsible military source at the Command of the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of Yemen has said that the ruling Sanaa gang, at the same time that it claims it wishes to reach a cease-fire, is continuing its practice of misleading Arab and international public opinion.

Yesterday evening it fired another ground-to-ground missile toward the capital, Aden. The source confirmed to the Yemeni news agency, SABA', that our vigilant ground defenses destroyed it in the air. Its parts fell in one of the farms in the Lahij Governorate, causing no deaths or material damage.

South Asks Jordan To Intervene

NC2905062094 Paris AFP in English 2341 GMT 28 May 94

[Text] Aden, Yemen, May 29 (AFP)—One person was killed and four were wounded Saturday [28 May] in a missile attack on the southern Yemeni capital Aden, even though the missile was shot down, a southern Yemeni military statement said. Southern anti-aircraft batteries shot the missile apart, but debris fell on the Shaykh 'Uthman district in the north of the city, killing one person, the statement said.

Witnesses said they heard anti-aircraft fire and a muffled explosion and a flash in the sky around 10:30 p.m. (1930 GMT). Northern Yemeni forces have periodically fire Soviet-made Luna missiles at Aden during the night, but most of them have been downed by southern anti-aircraft batteries.

Three more dull thuds were heard around 2:00 a.m. in Aden on Sunday, although it was not clear what had caused them.

Southern Yemen on Saturday appealed to Jordan to intervene to stop the civil war that broke out between the former North and South Yemen on May 5, according to official sources here. Anis Hasan Yahya, chairman of the Provisional Assembly of National Salvation, the week-old caretaker parliament of the newly-proclaimed Democratic Republic of Yemen, sent the message to Jordanian parliamentary speaker Tahir al-Masri, the source said. Yahya had asked for the "rapid intervention" of Jordan with the aim of "stopping the war, returning the warring armies to their original positions and starting immediate negotiations without preconditions under the aegis of the Arab League," he said.

Jordan brokered a Yemeni peace accord in Amman last February 20, but the move to ease relations between the two Yemens, which had never fully integrated despite their unification in 1990, remained a dead letter. Amman last Sunday reaffirmed its commitment to a united Yemen recognised in international law.

Meanwhile Yemeni Foreign Minister Mohammad Basindwah, a northerner, arrived Saturday in Cairo for the Non-Aligned Movement's meeting of foreign ministers, opening on Tuesday. Basindwah told reporters he had brought a message for Egyptian President Husni Mubarak from Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih about the situation in Yemen. He also met his Egyptian

counterpart 'Amr Musa, who told reporters Egypt and the Gulf states had asked the United Nations Security Council to look into the Yemeni civil war. Musa stressed that a ceasefire had to be secured to stop the situation deteriorating.

UN sources in New York said Oman had on Friday submitted to the Security Council a draft resolution calling for an immediate ceasefire in Yemen and the renewal of negotiations between the warring sides.

Armed Forces Deny Missile Attacks

JN2905114194 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1114 GMT 29 May 94

[Text] A military source in Sanaa categorically denied that government troops had fired any missiles on Aden yesterday or today. The source stressed that only the city's airport was targeted by Yemeni Armed Forces artillery.

In a statement transmitted today by the official Yemeni News Agency, SABA', the source said that the objective of the shelling is to prevent the secessionists from using the airport to launch raids with warplanes on defenseless citizens and the forces of unity and legitimacy.

The source stressed that none of the civilian installations or residential areas in Aden will ever be a target of the artillery shelling. The source explained, however, that all military targets in the city are now within the range of the unity forces' artillery, which is now engaging them from a distance of no more 14 km.

More Missiles Intercepted

EA2905165094 Aden Democratic Republic of Yemen Radio Network in Arabic 1400 GMT 29 May 94

[Statement issued by "responsible source at the command of the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of Yemen"]

[Text] Yesterday evening, on 28 May, our air defenses intercepted hostile aerial targets aimed at the capital, Aden, from the forces of the bloody al-Ahmar gang, and succeeded in destroying them in mid-air.

The source said that, as a result of the destruction of the aerial targets, some of the shrapnel fell on peaceful citizens, leading to the death of one person and the wounding of four others.

Defense Ministry Claims 4 Planes Shot Down

JN3005122994 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1038 GMT 30 May 94

[Text] A responsible source at the Defense Ministry yesterday evening said that the righteous heroes in the valiant units of the Armed Forces continue to carry out the tasks assigned to them in connection with the field operations on all axes and in all sectors. They tightened the siege on all the dens of the gang of rebellion and secession, and eliminated the obstacles and fortifications behind which the rebel secessionists have been barricading themselves. The heroes in the forces of unity and constitutional legitimacy continue to mop up the remaining secessionist pockets and dens on the Lahij axis. They inflicted on the gang of rebellion and secession further losses in life and equipment.

On the Aden axis, the forces protecting unity and constitutional legitimacy pursued their valiant combat tasks, dealing decisive strikes against the last collapsing defenses of the gang of rebellion and secession, and inflicting direct losses on the airbase in Aden airport.

The air defenses of the forces of unity, democracy, and constitutional legitimacy shot down two aircraft yesterday [place not specified] and captured one of the pilots, who received first aid and is now being treated in one of the hospitals. Another aircraft was shot down over al-'Anad the day before yesterday, and another aircraft was shot down on the Abyan axis.

The hero hawks of the air in the forces protecting unity and constitutional legitimacy also carried out several successful raids on enemy targets of the forces of rebellion and secession. They set on fire and sank two war vessels off the Abyan coast, and destroyed two other vessels off the [word indistinct] coast.

The valiant Armed Forces units are still carrying out mopping-up operations of the remaining pockets and dens of the gang of rebellion and secession. All the other axes enjoy (?complete) calm.

Southern Forces Claim Fighting Far From Aden

EA3005174394 Aden Democratic Republic of Yemen Radio Network in Arabic 1230 GMT 30 May 94

[Text] A responsible military source at the Armed Forces Command of the Democratic Republic of Yemen [DRY] has ridiculed the lies spooned out by the information kitchen of the al-Ahmar family to the news media, the latest of which were what was reported by MENA that the artillery of the forces of the al-Ahmar gang were positioned 14 km from Aden from where it was said to be shelling Aden International Airport.

In a statement to the Yemeni news agency, the military source said the report was not only absolutely untrue, but it was further evidence of the bankruptcy of the media of the Sanaa gang and a reflection of its political and military bankruptcy. Indeed, its lies will fluctuate within a day or two.

The source went on to say: We wish to confirm for the 20th time that the fighting is taking place in between the two parts of Yemen, hundreds of kilometers away from Aden. The foreign journalists, let alone the residents of Aden, can confirm that.

The military source concluded its statement differentiates between artillery shelling and missiles. The military source also advised the foreign news media to be precise

and seek information from reliable sources instead of from the information kitchen of the adventurous al-Ahmar family.

Sporadic Fighting Reported on al-'Anad Front

NC3105072594 Paris AFP in English 0603 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] Aden, Yemen, May 31 (AFP)—Northern and Southern Yemeni troops on Tuesday exchanged sporadic artillery fire around this southern city, an AFP correspondent reported.

The fighting was mainly at the al-'Anad front, 60 kilometers (36 miles) north of Aden and Abyan 35 kilometers (21 miles) east of the city.

Several MiG-21 were spotted taking off from Aden Airport.

The fighting continued as the UN Security Council was due later in the day to discuss the civil war that erupted on May 5 between northern forces of President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and those of his southern rival 'Ali Salim al-Bid.

Al-Bid proclaimed a breakaway Yemen Democratic Republic on May 20, but it has not been recognised internationally.

South Reports Enemy Losses

EA2705192494 Aden Democratic Republic of Yemen Radio Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 27 May 94

["Annex" to "Military Communique No. 27" issued by Armed Forces Command on 27 May; place not given]

[Text] Following the crushing blows inflicted by our Air Force and artillery and after brave fida'i [fedayeen] operations of the heroes of our military units on the axis of al-Anad-Karish-al-Rahidah, our forces managed to regain military control and to inflict on the enemy the following losses: six tanks, three (VRDM) vehicles, three Katyusha artillery and rocket launcher vehicles, four loaded [word indistinct], and dozens of dead and wounded. The hostile forces had to flee and scatter while two soldiers were martyred and three others from among our heroes suffered slight wounds.

In the Abyan Governorate our air defenses shot down an enemy helicopter.

South Denies al-'Anad Captured

EA2805205594 Aden Democratic Republic of Yemen Radio Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 28 May 94

[Text] A responsible military source in the command of the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of Yemen has categorically denied in a statement to the Yemeni news agency, SABA', Aden, the reports carried by some foreign news agencies this evening, that the al-'Anad air base is under the control of the forces of the al-Ahmar gang. The source confirmed that the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of Yemen are in full control of the al-'Anad zone, including the air base. In its statement, the source pointed out that news agency correspondents visited the air base and confirmed that our forces were in control of the air base, and indicated this in voice and video reports.

'Infiltration Attempt' Foiled on Kahbub Front

EA2805173594 Aden Democratic Republic of Yemen Radio Network in Arabic 1400 GMT 28 May 94

[Text] On 26 May, the people of Tawr al-Bahah Province succeeded in thwarting an infiltration attempt on the Kahbub front by the forces of the bloody al-Ahmar family. A military source told the YEMENI NEWS AGENCY in Aden that the people of the province laid an ambush for the patrols of the military clique of Sanaa, killing four of their men and taking two prisoners—one of them a lieutenant colonel. They also seized two military (?vehicles).

Further on Fighting at Tawr al-Bahah

EA3105120694 Aden Democratic Republic of Yemen Radio Network in Arabic 0800 GMT 31 May 94

[Statement by "a responsible military source at the Armed Forces Command of the Democratic Republic of Yemen"; place and date not given—read by announcer]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] The gang of the al-Ahmar family in Sanaa continues its (?war) against the Democratic Republic of Yemen by (?committing) another aggression against [words indistinct] and Tawr al-Bahah. [Words indistinct] (?Monday) the al-Ahmar gang used its forces to commit aggression against our people on this new front, thus (?persisting) in its aggressive operations, notably artillery shelling and random launching of missiles against citizens' villages and homes, schools and government centers.

Our soldiers on the battlefront have the support and backing of our Armed Forces and the masses of the people in Tawr al-Bahah and in [words indistinct] this new aggression and inflicted on the forces of aggression shattering (?defeats) and heavy losses in lives and equipment.

Ferocious battles are still going on in this sector between our defensive and heroic forces and the aggressive and tyrannical forces which are attempting to try their luck on [words indistinct]. Battles are also continuing on a number of fronts particularly in the direction of (?Karish al-Anad) [passage indistinct].

South Claims Heavy Losses Inflicted

EA3105115294 Aden Democratic Republic of Yemen Radio Network in Arabic 0905 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] This is Aden. Masses of our Yemeni people, our heroes in Tawr al-Bahah, our heroic Armed Forces: 'Ali

'Abdallah Salih has dug a new graveyard with his own hands for what is left of his routed armies. Tawr al-Bahah is in flames lit by the invaders. Tawr al-Bahah is a new graveyard and a holocaust of death. The invaders are dying without being conscious of death.

Now, at this very moment, a battle is going on in which the enemy is registering losses every second and minute. The sons of Tawr al-Bahah are steadfast and our Armed Forces, the forces of the Democratic Republic of Yemen are, true to tradition, inflicting blows against the hordes and the routed remnants of the invaders from the land, the air, and the sea. The enemies are perishing but they are dreaming that they are advancing. It is madness and death. They have no other fate except death.

God is Great. God is Great. Victory to the Democratic Republic of Yemen.

Saddam Assumes Prime Minister's Position

JN2905180994 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1748 GMT 29 May 94

[Text] Baghdad, 29 May (INA)—In a statement issued today, the Revolution Command Council [RCC] has decided that President Saddam Husayn shall directly assume the post of prime minister. His excellency accepted this nomination.

A presidential decree was issued relieving the prime minister, the deputy prime minister, and the ministers of their posts.

Another presidential decree was issued forming a Cabinet under President Saddam Husayn. Three deputy prime ministers were appointed. Ministers were also named for various portfolios.

The RCC statement says:

In view of the circumstances of the unjust blockade and the need for exceptional interest in economic issues and the citizens' lives and in order to reinforce the heroic steadfastness of our great people and the achievements of that steadfastness, which constitute a basic factor in our successful struggle, God willing, to lift the unjust blockade, and in accordance with the provisions of Paragraph C of Article 61 of the Constitution, the RCC, during its session on 18 Dhu al-Hijjah 1414 Hegira, corresponding to 29 May 1994, has decided that President Saddam Husayn shall directly assume the post of prime minister. His excellency agreed to this nomination for the reasons and circumstances presented by the council.

The presidential decree forming the new Council of Ministers reads:

Taking cognizance of the provisions of Paragraphs C and D of Article 58 of the Constitution, we decree the following:

First, The Council of Ministers will be formed under our chairmanship;

Second, Vice President Taha Yasin Ramadan shall be appointed deputy prime minister;

Third, Tariq 'Aziz shall be appointed deputy prime minister;

Fourth, Muhammad Hamzah al-Zubaydi shall be appointed deputy prime minister;

Fifth, the following persons shall be appointed to the ministerial posts indicated alongside their names:
1. Staff General 'Ali Hasan al-Majid, defense minister.
2. Ahmad Husayn Khudayyir, finance minister.
3. Latif Nusayyif Jasim, labor and social affairs minister.
4. Arshad Muhammad Ahmad al-Zibari, state minister.
5. Samal Majid Faraj, planning minister.
6. Staff General 'Abd-al-Jabbar Khalil Shanshal, minister of state for military affairs.
7. Muhammad Mahdi Salih, trade minister.
8. Staff General Husayn Kamil Hasan, industry and minerals minister.
9. Umid Midhat Mubarak, health minister.
10. Karim Hasan Rida, agriculture minister.
11. Muhammad Sa'id Kazim al-Sahhaf, foreign minister.
12. Hamid Yusuf Hammadi, culture and information minister.
13. Shabib Lazim al-Maliki, justice minister.
14. Hikmat 'Abdallah al-Bazzaz, education minister.
15. Mahmud Dhiyab al-Ahmad, housing and construction minister.
16. Watban Ibrahim al-Hasan, interior minister.
17. Humam 'Abd-al-Khaliq 'Abd-al-Ghafur, higher education and scientific research minister.
18. Nizar Jum'ah al-Qasir, irrigation minister.
19. Safa' Hadi Jawad, oil minister.
20. Ahmad Murtada Ahmad Khalil, transport and telecommunications minister.
21. 'Abd-al-Mun'im Ahmad Salih, awqaf and religious affairs minister.
22. 'Abd-al-Wahhab 'Umar Mirza al-Atrushi, state minister.

The prime minister and ministers shall implement this decree.

Written in Baghdad on 18 Dhu al-Hijjah, 1414 hegira, corresponding to 29 May 1994.

[Signed] Saddam Husayn, president of the Republic

Tariq 'Aziz Report Discussed at Joint Meeting

JN2905163094 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1540 GMT 29 May 94

[Text] Baghdad, 29 May (INA)—President Saddam Husayn has chaired a joint meeting of the Revolution Command Council [RCC] and the Iraq Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party.

An official spokesman made the following statement after the meeting:

The joint meeting of the RCC and the Iraq Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party discussed the report which Tariq 'Aziz, member of the RCC and deputy prime minister, submitted to the meeting regarding the recent session of the UN Security Council.

The joint meeting asserted that the positive positions expressed during last March's session have been strengthened and have increased the number of Security Council member states that voice a positive position toward Iraq and call for lifting the unjust blockade imposed on it.

It is now obvious that the overwhelming majority of the Security Council member states call for acknowledging the progress made in applying Security Council resolutions and for the need to discuss the lifting of the blockade as soon as possible. It has also become clear that the U.S. position is the principal obstacle to lifting

the blockade for reasons that have nothing to do with the Security Council's resolutions, that this position has been isolated in the Security Council and is not supported by the majority of the Security Council's member states, and that U.S. statements on the continuation of the blockade and postponing plans to lift it express nervousness caused by the isolation of the U.S. position in the Security Council and the international community, which is stepping up its demand that the unjust blockade, which has begun to embarrass the U.S. position inside and outside the Security Council, be lifted.

The spokesman said: The leadership in Iraq highly values the states which adopted a fair position during the Council's debates, especially Russia, France, China, Brazil, Spain, Pakistan, Nigeria, and other states in the Council.

The spokesman appealed to these states and the international community in general to strengthen and develop their position and work persistently to lift the unjust blockade.

A plan has been drawn up to continue contacts with these states, as well as with Arab and international sides during the coming period.

The meeting was attended by Hatim Hamdan al-'Azzawi, chief of the Presidential Office.

Saddam Addresses First Cabinet Meeting

JN3005201894 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 30 May 94

[Excerpts] Deputy Prime Ministers Taha Yasin Ramadan and Tariq 'Aziz and the ministers took the constitutional oath today before leader Saddam Husayn, president of the republic and prime minister, may God preserve him.

The leader president, may God preserve him, chaired the first meeting of the new Council of Ministers which lasted approximately four and a half hours. During this meeting, his excellency delivered the following valuable and important speech:

First, we would like to thank brother Ahmad Husayn for assuming the tasks of the prime minister over the past period. He exerted his utmost in this field.

The statement of the Revolution Command Council was very clear. Our assessment was that our circumstances require this formula in terms of the presidency's relationship with the Council of Ministers, despite the fact that it will increase our burdens and cost us extra time. This, however, is required.

You will continue to assume your ministerial posts, except the agriculture minister, who was previously a minister. Now, he is a comrade in the party and a governor and knows our course. The new thing, however, is the new situation.

The new thing is that, as you recall, we addressed the Iraqis on one occasion and told them: You are in the last 10 days of Ramadan. Some people interpreted this by saying that these are the last 10 days and that the blockade will be lifted on 'Id al-Fitr. They also said that something would happen. I heard these interpretations from some people.

Meanwhile, what we meant by the last 10 days is the fact that the largest period of time has passed and that the reward of the whole month will be gained during the last 10 days. In other words, man will either succeed or fail. The last 10 days need additional patience and efforts so that man will gain the reward of fasting during the month of Ramadan.

Addressing the members of the Council of Ministers, his excellency said:

In the past, ministers might have taken their time and read the newspapers before beginning work. But, now, the first thing I will do is read the newspapers after dealing with the basic components of the morning mail. As of now, every minister should be in his office at 0800. This is the first measure to be carried out by all, except the sick person, who should telephone Dr. Khalil al-Ma'muri, secretary of the Council of Ministers, to inform him that he cannot report to work at his ministry. This will help us know that he is sick, to be reassured about him, to wish him good health, and to follow up his medical situation. Those who are not sick should be present in their ministry at 0800. I do not want any other excuses. [passage omitted]

What we want to discuss in this meeting—which has no agenda—is the living conditions of our people and some phenomena which I noticed in the state departments in general so that the brother ministers will work toward overcoming these phenomena once we reach agreement on them.

Regarding the people's standard of living, I will explain to you how I see the prices so that you will not imagine that I am not aware of the minor details and that I am not aware of minor things in the life of the people, and consequently, I would ask you for things that would appear illogical. [passage omitted]

I want to say to you that I follow up things and think them over as much as I can. Do not imagine that I am unaware of things. I follow up people's life. I want to say that we can do something, but what is it?

I prefer that we hold a dialogue about this and that each of you makes his suggestions. I hope that you make these suggestions as brief and concise as possible.

The deputy prime ministers and the ministers presented a number of ideas and proposals which were discussed.

The leader president then said:

The blockade will end just as any other issue. Wars have ended and there are still other wars. The blockade started

on a certain day, and there must be a day when it will end. It is clear that the remaining time is less than the time which has elapsed. I believe that the expression we used before is accurate. However, the basis which will end the blockade, keep Iraq just as its sons want it to be, and end any strong storm with the fewest losses or sacrifices, with the continuation of the basic constants wished by its sons, the people of the country, lies in the people of the country themselves. The basis lies in the people of the country. The responsibility increases gradually in accordance with the level of influence and center of influence among the people of the country. It is natural that the minister's responsibility of steadfastness differs from the responsibility of others. This means that the minister's sense of responsibility and the level and size of influence differs from that of the ordinary employee or citizen in the state of Iraq. Thus, this includes members of the leadership, beginning with the ministry's under secretary, the director general, and ends with the end of the job scale.

From the beginning we said that the basis that will fragment or lift the blockade is you. Why you? Because the more you increase your people's patience and ability to stand fast, the more this will be in your favor to end the blockade in an honorable way. Praise be to God that the country's capabilities, its sons' capacity, and the level of their awareness have remained as they are regardless of some exceptions which occur as a result of a quick assessment or a quick or hasty stand. I know the national essence of the people of the country. They understand that they have no other choice. This is how the situation can be decided the way we wish. The ministers, when they increase their activity in their offices and make their mental and organizational ability more efficient and more effective, will play a role in increasing the patience of the citizen, whether he is an employee or something else.

It seems that some sides mobilized the people in a way which was interpreted as if the Iraqis should wait for good news, in a dramatic sense, after the UN Security Council's meeting which was held in May. This is wrong and is contrary to our policy. Our policy says that we are working in the international arena with all our capabilities and mental abilities. However, the basis which changes the international approach is the Iraqis' position. The Iraqis weaken their position in the international arena when they grumble too much and when their balance of patience is disrupted. They weaken their position in the international community, which has a purpose. Even he who has no purpose will no longer be enthusiastic about insisting on shortening the time for lifting the blockade when he sees the people's resistance against the blockade has become weak. [passage omitted]

Our citizens have a nationalist nature. They can hear facts, and therefore, we must clarify facts to them in order to be balanced. They have been used to this issue since 1969. When onions, potatoes, or tomatoes become scarce, they make an issue out of this, and when we give them a solution by the available means, all of them will stand in the right position. So, let's do so and rely on God.

At the end of the meeting, specialized committees were formed to study some urgent issues. The results of their actions will be presented to the Council of Ministers soon.

Reaction to U.S. Decision To Expel Diplomat

JN2705184794 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 27 May 94

[Text] A Foreign Ministry official has stated the following to the IRAQI NEWS AGENCY:

The Iraqi Foreign Ministry is amazed at the unwarranted decision of the U.S. Department of State to ask the head of the Iraqi interests section to leave the United States. By way of justifying its inexcusable decision, the Department of State contended that the Iraqi diplomat, who has since returned to Baghdad, had been engaged in diplomatic and media activity incompatible with the agreement under which the two sides opened sections for looking after Iraqi and American interests in Baghdad and Washington.

Our interests section head in Washington, the Foreign Ministry statement went on, never engaged in any action, conduct, or activity incompatible with the most basic principles of diplomacy. Our interests section head in Washington was not involved in anything beyond the kind of activities that occupied his predecessor, to whom the U.S. Department of State never objected. We, therefore, think that there is no real justification for the American Department of State's decision. The decision may have been motivated by political or psychological factors that have no connection with the activities of the head of the Iraqi interests section in Washington.

In any case, we will increase the staff of our interests section in Washington in accordance with the bilateral agreement. The American interests section in Baghad operates out of the Polish Embassy under the Polish flag.

Ekeus on 'Headway' in Destruction of Weapons

NC2905140894 Paris AFP in English 1323 GMT 29 May 94

[Text] Amman, May 29 (AFP)—UN disarmament chief Rolf Ekeus said Sunday he had made headway in talks here with Iraqi officials on applying UN resolutions to destroy Iraq's weapons of mass destruction.

"We have made certain progress. But we have to preserve it to maintain the momentum," Ekeus told AFP after meeting Iraqi Foreign Minister Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf late Saturday, who was on a stopover en route for Cairo.

The head of the UN Special Commission for Iraqi disarmament (UNSCOM) is to present a report to the

UN Security Council on Tuesday on setting up a long-term monitoring of Iraqi military capability due to start in July, a reliable source said.

Ekeus was due to resume talks late Sunday with an Iraqi delegation including General 'Amir Rashid head of the Iraqi military industries.

He expressed his "satisfaction" over the initial talks with Iraqi officials, saying they aimed at "clarifying certain issues in order to make progress."

"We are fairly satisfied, although we have not concluded our talks yet," he said noting that any eventual lifting of the Iraqi sanctions would be decided by the Security Council.

A UN embargo was imposed on Iraq when it invaded Kuwait in August 1990, before Iraqi President Saddam Husayn's army was driven out again by a U.S. led coalition in February 1991.

But the embargo has remained in force backed by UN resolutions requiring Iraq to destroy its weapons of mass destruction and set up a long-term monitoring system.

Ekeus said the aim was to get the embargo lifted, adding that "we are trying to establish whether (Iraq) has respected the UN resolutions."

Iraq has argued on several occasions that it has complied fully with the resolutions.

He is in Amman for a meeting of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, which opened Sunday.

Kurdish Leaders Agree To Meet; Arrange Cease-Fire

NC2705185194 Istanbul HURRIYET in Turkish 25 May 94 p 15

[Report by Selin Caglayan: "Talabani and Barzani Will Meet in Turkey"]

[Text] Ankara—Democratic Party of Kurdistan Leader Mas'ud Barzani and Patriotic Union of Kurdistan Leader Jalal Talabani will meet in Turkey to end the clashes between their supporters in northern Iraq. It has been ascertained that Talabani is already on his way.

It has also been ascertained that Turkey has been trying to convince the two sides to end the clashes in northern Iraq and that these efforts have begun to yield positive results. It has been reported that Talabani and Barzani have conferred by telephone several times during the past three days and agreed to a cease-fire. There is a very strong possibility the two leaders will meet in Silopi in a few days.

Sarcil Kazaz, Jalal Talabani's representative in Ankara, is currently in Damascus. He has replied to the questions HURRIYET put to him by telephone. Kazaz said: "We have been in constant touch with the Turkish officials during the past few days. Turkey is a friendly and neighboring country and we take its views very seriously."

Kazaz also asserted that Talabani left for the region after reaching an agreement with Mas'ud Barzani by telephone. Stressing that he will travel to northern Iraq through Turkey, Kazaz said: "A meeting could be held in Turkey. However, that has not yet been finalized."

The Turkish officials have confirmed Kazaz's disclosure.

Ankara Warned the Two Leaders

It has been reported that Turkey has decided to take certain steps because the Workers Party of Kurdistan [PKK] has gained significant strength as a result of the clashes between the supporters of Talabani and Barzani. Ankara has warned the two leaders—who have been trying to find allies against each other—not to cooperate with the PKK. The Turkish officials are reported to have warned Talabani and Barzani that Turkey will support the opposite side and provide it with arms and logistical support if any of them decides to cooperate with the PKK. It has also been reported that Talabani reacted positively to Ankara's warning. That has dispelled the relatively chilly atmosphere that existed in his relations with Ankara for a rather long time.

Meanwhile, Ankara continues to be worried about the emigration of Turkey's Kurdish citizens in southeastern Anatolia to northern Iraq. In fact, it is expected to make a disclosure on the condition of the Kurdish citizens who have been forced to emigrate by the PKK. It has been reported that it may call on them to return and guarantee that the Government will consider their complaints.

U.S. Decision To Expel Diplomat Criticized

JN2905100894 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0838 GMT 29 May 94

[Text] Baghdad, 29 May (INA)—AL-THAWRAH stresses that the impulsive decision that has been made against the Iraqi employee responsible for looking after the Iraqis' interests in the United States is unmistakable evidence of the weak U.S. position.

In its "Window" column today, the paper says that the United States fears that this lone Iraqi may influence congressmen, something which would embarrass the U.S. Administration in its attempts to justify the continued imposition of the blockade against Iraq.

The paper asks: How then does the U.S. Administration view the moves made by the Iraqi delegations, led by Tariq 'Aziz, that visit the UN headquarters every two months, especially since it is aware that such moves have substantial effects, even among its allies at the UN Security Council?

The paper adds: We are certain that Washington's impulsive stands are a reaction to its loss of confidence in its ability to convince the American people and their

law-makers of its policy on maintaining the blockade imposed on Iraq. This is evidence of the success of the Iraqi move. Only further patience and steadfastness is required, for the American side has begun to stagger, and its arguments will inevitably be defeated.

Paper Says Talabani 'Gang' Committed Massacre

JN3005091594 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0640 GMT 30 May 94

[Text] Al-Sulaymaniyah, Iraqi Kurdistan, 30 May (INA)—The renegade Jalal Talabani's gang has carried out killings and acts of destruction in Kou Senjaq, claiming the lives of 250 people, including 150 civilian women and children.

In a report published today, citing arrivals from that area, the newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH says that this massacre, in which an entire family of a mother and her five children were killed, was planned by two criminals; namely, Jabbar Faraman, who is called the minister of peshmerga affairs; and Shaykh Ja'far, a military commander in the so-called Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, which is led by Jalal Talabani. This was part of a plan worked out by the traitor Talabani to liquidate the Kurds who are hostile to his treasonous political line and who reject his affiliation with the foreigners.

Mas'ud Barzani still rejects Talabani's return from Damascus to his headquarters in Iraqi Kurdistan via the area of Bahdanyan [name as received] under Barzani's personal guarantee. Military confrontations between the groups of these two renegades are still raging in several areas of Iraqi Kurdistan.

Press: King Fahd 'Lost His Mind'

JN2805091394 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0630 GMT 28 May 94

[Text] Baghdad, 28 May (INA)—AL-JUMHURIYAH has said that recent changes in the UN Security Council, which has recently witnessed support by all UN Security Council member states—with the exception of the United States and Britain—for the lifting the blockade, have made Saudi King Fahd lose his balance and abuse Iraq.

In its editorial today, the paper adds that when he saw Iraq getting prepared to resume its normal life and the role compatible with its size, history, and capabilities, Fahd lost his mind. For he realizes that this will mean an increase in the state of deterioration in Saudi Arabia, a widening gap between the treasonous rulers and the masses there, and a decline in the importance of the subversive Saudi role on Arab and Islamic fronts.

Referring to the hostile U.S. role, the paper notes that the United States is losing daily its sources of influence on the world and regional levels to the forces of freedom and progress. The paper notes that this has left the Saudi agents deeply concerned about continued U.S. protection against the wrath of the peoples that have suffered from their crimes, especially since they know well that the "American's God is the dollar."

The paper says: Therefore, Iraq's certain and imminent return to the regional arena will mean that the United States will reconsider the role of Saudi rulers and will leave them alone to deal with the realities of the new situation that emerged during the Mother of Battles.

The paper stresses that as Fahd watches all this, he is obsessed day and night by the nightmare that Iraq has past the dangerous stage, that it has destroyed all justifications for the blockade, and that the world is clearly coming to understand Iraq's position.

On the same topic, BABIL describes Saudi ruler Fahd as a glaring example of the pseudo men afflicting the Arab nation.

In an editorial, the paper says that after what he said against Iraq, this Arabist bastion and upholder of the banner of Islam, the betrayer of the two holy mosques and Judas Iscariot can only be described as a dissolute person and a pig.

The paper stresses that the Arab nation's history cannot be made by dissolute persons and pigs, but faithful leaders with clean minds and hearts. Those are makers of the future and the pride of the nation. As for the first category, their lot is to rot in vice, damnation, and misfortune.

Saudi King Accused of 'Crimes' Against Arabs

JN2905104594 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0807 GMT 29 May 94

[Text] Baghdad, 29 May (INA)—The newspaper AL-THAWRAH has said that Saudi King Fahd does not hesitate to commit the most odious crimes against the Arab people to make sure that his rotten regime remains in power.

In its "Standpoint" column, the paper says that Fahd, who is a robot controlled by his American masters, is more eager than his masters to harm the Arab nation and its national security and does not hesitate to commit even the most odious crimes against the Arab people.

The paper stresses that Fahd cannot stand to see a neighboring country, such as Iraq, turning into a radiant center, nor can he stand to see unity on his regime's border, such as the Yemeni unity. Therefore, he imagines that through his illegal money he can oppose the course of history and the free will of the Arab people in Iraq and Yemen, and that he can harm the Arab centers of strength and radiance.

The paper says that it is not surprising that the Saudi ruler should slander Iraq and Yemen in one address full of hatred for every glorious and honorable Arab stand and all aspirations for unity. The Arab people know Fahd as a meek ruler and an obedient servant of his imperialist and Zionist masters.

The paper adds that after this ruler instigated the colonialist powers, distributing among them the money of the Arab people in Najd and Hejaz [Saudi Arabia], and blocked an Arab solution to the so-called Gulf crisis, Fahd placed a land that belongs to the Arabs and Muslims at the disposal of the aggressive Americans and their allies to launch the 30-state aggression against Arab, Muslim Iraq.

Press Continues To Assail Saudi King

JN3005101594 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0655 GMT 30 May 94

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 30 May (INA)—Two Iraqi newspapers have asserted that the speech the agent King Fahd delivered to the pilgrims revealed the stupidity and ignorance of this humiliated servant and disclosed the extent of his enmity, his persistence in following evil paths, and his departure from the principles and directives of Islam.

In two articles published today, AL-THAWRAH and AL-QADISIYAH explain that this man [King Fahd], who frequents brothels, bars, and gambling lounges, drank too much wine before addressing the delegations' heads and members.

AL-THAWRAH, the mouthpiece of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, says that Fahd not only lost his awareness and balance, but also his memory, so he no longer recalls anything but his own dilemma and his comprehensive political and financial difficulties. [passage omitted]

The paper asserts that all the bribes and grants given by the rulers of Kuwait to continue the unfair blockade on Iraq will not benefit them and will not prevent the fragmentation and erosion of this blockade, at which time Fahd will only be left with disgrace, shame, and history's curse.

AL-QADISIYAH says: It was not strange for the Saudi rulers to take this position on the Arab nation's issues. This is because Saudi Arabia's very existence is only a colonialist creation whose duty is to place obstacles in the way of any effort to pool the nation's resources and employ them in the service of the Arab people's objectives. [passage omitted]

The paper is not surprised by the position of the agent Fahd at the end of the pilgrimage season and by his abuses against Iraq and its people. It says: It is not strange for this regime to work for the internationalization of an internal Yemeni affair and deny the legitimate Yemeni authorities their right to fight the rebellious secessionists and those who encroached upon legitimacy.

Russian Middle East Envoy Posuvalyuk Visits

Meets With Beilin

TA2905122494 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1200 GMT 29 May 94

[Text] Viktor Posuvalyuk, the Russian envoy to the Middle East, conferred with Deputy Foreign Minister Yosi Beilin today. Our political correspondent Shlomo Raz reports that the two discussed Middle East negotiations, in particular along the Syrian track, and to what extent Russia can play a part in them. The two also discussed Israeli-Russian relations following the prime minister's visit there. Posuvalyuk arrived in Israel from meetings with the leaders of Syria, Lebanon, and Jordan. In Syria, he also conferred with the 10 rejectionist organizations. Tomorrow, he will confer with Prime Minister Rabin.

Beilin, Envoy Comment on Peace Moves

TA2905170694 Jerusalem Israel Television Channel 1 Network in Arabic 1600 GMT 29 May 94

[Comments to the press by Deputy Foreign Minister Yosi Beilin and Viktor Posuvalyuk, special envoy of Russian President Boris Yeltsin—recorded; Posuvalyuk in Russian, fading into Hebrew by official translator; processed from the Hebrew]

[Text] [Posuvalyuk] We work on different (?ideas) than the Americans. I told my friend, Mr. Beilin, today that I had a long talk with representatives of the 10 rejectionist organizations in Damascus. That does not mean that tomorrow the Americans will run to talk with those 10 organizations.

[Beilin] I take the Russian link with the Middle East very seriously. It is part of the joint American-Russian sponsorship. I do not think that somebody else could have conducted the meetings envoy Viktor Posuvalyuk held in Damascus, which assist us in receiving an overall picture of the Syrian regime's readiness to advance with us toward a political arrangement and of the attitude of the Palestinian opposition to the PLO on the Oslo and Cairo agreements. I think the continuation of Russia's current special activity can make a very important contribution to advancing the peace process alongside American shuttle diplomacy. The Russian envoy arrived here with a message from President Yeltsin to the prime minister.

Meets With Rabin

TA3005154594 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1500 GMT 30 May 94

[Text] [Announcer] The head of the Russian Foreign Ministry's Middle East Department, Viktor Posuvalyuk, has said he believes Syria is serious about achieving peace with Israel. He was speaking to reporters in Jerusalem today after meeting Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin.

Our correspondent Jack Katzenell asked the Russian envoy about his talks with Rabin:

[Begin recording] [Posuvalyuk] I thank the prime minister for his sincere talk with me, and we appreciate the assessments of the prime minister. And, he assured that the Government of Israel will keep and fulfill its commitments in the peace process. He paid attention to coordination with the Russian cosponsor, so I thank the prime minister.

[Katzenell] Can you tell us about the message which you brought from President Yeltsin to the prime minister?

[Posuvalyuk] I brought message from President Boris Yeltsin to his excellency the prime minister. It concerns the results of recent visit of prime minister to Moscow and our vision of future steps in order to improve the relations between our two countries. And then, there was a separate item: our assessment of the situation in the negotiations process and what should be done in order to move it forward.

[Katzenell] Is there any truth in the report that the Soviet Union is not pleased about not being involved by the United States in the negotiations with Syria?

[Posuvalyuk] No, we are in close contact with the Americans. I can mention, lately it was a meeting between Mr. Kozyrev and Christopher in Geneva, and then they exchanged a few letters concerning Middle East peace process.

[IDF Radio political correspondent Eldad Beck] What is your assessment about the seriousness of the Syrians in the negotiations?

[Posuvalyuk] My personal feeling—and it's our view, of the Russian cosponsor—is that Syrian people and Syrian leadership are interested in achieving peace with Israel. [end recording]

[Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 1500 GMT on 30 May adds: "A delegation of representatives from the United States, Russia, and several Arab countries will travel to Damascus to persuade Syria to attend the multilateral talks. This transpired in Russian envoy Viktor Posuvalyuk's second meeting with the deputy foreign minister. Yosi Beilin welcomed the initiative." The report further states that "referring to his Jericho tour, Posuvalyuk said the Palestinian police was determined to enforce its authority in the city."]

Posuvalyuk Meets Al-Husayni; Prisoners' Release Begins

TA3005110394 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1000 GMT 30 May 94

[Text] The meeting between Russian envoy Viktor Posuvalyuk and Faysal al-Husayni in East Jerusalem's Orient House ended a short time ago. The Russian diplomat

told our correspondent Moti Amir that Moscow is currently reviewing aid requests for the Palestinians submitted by Yasir 'Arafat during his last visit to Moscow.

This morning the Palestinian security personnel at Orient House were warned about the possibility of shots being fired at them, just as shots were directed at Palestinian policemen near the Jericho synagogue yesterday. The heads of the Palestinian security forces in Jericho are concerned about a situation wherein Palestinians direct gunfire at other Palestinians.

The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] and the Prison Service started the release of hundreds of Palestinian prisoners from the territories. The release is being conducted in accordance with the Cairo agreement.

[Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew at 1000 GMT on 30 May, in a report by Golan Yokhpaz, adds that "all the Palestinian prisoners being released today support the peace process and are associated with Fatah. Prior to their release they were asked to sign a statement vowing not to return to the path of terrorism and to support the peace process."]

IDF Soldier Killed by Gunfire Near Gaza Strip

TA3005071394 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0700 GMT 30 May 94

[Text] Reserve soldier Sergeant Shlomo Shitrit, 25, from Giv'at 'Ada, was killed by terrorist gunfire north of Nahal 'Oz near the Green Line last night. Our correspondents Karmela Menashe and Nisim Qeynan report that at approximately midnight shots were fired at six IDF [Israel Defense Forces] soldiers on guard duty along the Green Line north of Nahal 'Oz. The soldiers returned the fire. Sergeant Shlomo Shitrit was hit in the head and died of his wounds. The IDF has launched a search for the assailants.

IDF Foils Attempt To Infiltrate Gaza Settlement

TA2805142194 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1400 GMT 28 May 94

[Text] The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] foiled an attempt by three terrorists to infiltrate the settlement of Neve Deqalim in the Qatif Bloc this morning. An IDF force pursued the terrorists out of the settlement. One terrorist was apprehended, another was shot in the leg and detained after he tried to attack a soldier, and the third terrorist managed to escape. Our correspondent Moti Amir reports that the IDF lodged a complaint with the Palestinian police and is continuing to investigate the incident.

Closure Imposed on Jericho; Israelis Banned From Road

TA3005104294 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1000 GMT 30 May 94

[Report by correspondent Golan Yokhpaz]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] A closure was imposed today on Jericho. For security reasons, Israelis are not permitted to use the Jordan Rift Valley road through Jericho. The duration of the closure was not announced.

Security Services Uncover Orient House Political Plan

TA2805185594 Jerusalem New Channel 2 Television Network in Hebrew 1700 GMT 28 May 94

[Video report by political correspondent 'Imanu'el Rosen]

[Text] The security services have recently uncovered a PLO plan to turn Jerusalem's Orient House into the place from which a large proportion of the Palestinian administration of Gaza and Jericho will be run. Israel and the United States have made it clear to the PLO that if this trend continues they will have to act against it. Our political correspondent 'Imanu'el Rosen reports:

[Begin Rosen recording] A senior security source told us this evening that recent PLO attempts to create facts in Jerusalem have increased beyond belief. The security services have just uncovered a secret PLO plan to turn Orient House into the place from which the Gaza-Jericho autonomy can be managed in practice, something that clearly contravenes the agreement.

According to what we have learned, a headquarters for dealing with the statistical details of the autonomy was recently established in Orient House. Preparations have also been made to establish an economic commission which will receive the funds provided by donor countries. All this is being done in secrecy, behind the backs of the authorities, in a bid to create a fait accompli on the ground.

Yitzhaq Rabin, who is aware of criticism by the security elements' for not interfering in this trend over the last few years, has decided to put an end to this trend. The last straw was not the jihad speech—which Rabin treats as mere talk—but this secret operations plan which has been uncovered. Sharp messages about this issue were relayed to Tunis over the past few days both from Jerusalem and Washington. [end recording]

[Jerusalem Israel Television Channel 1 Network in Hebrew at 1800 GMT on 28 May, in an announcer-read report on PLO activity in East Jerusalem, adds the following: "This evening, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin downplayed reports of the Palestinian constitution drafted by Yasir 'Arafat, one of whose clauses states that Jerusalem is the capital of Palestine. Our political correspondent Gadi Sukenik reports that Mr. Rabin considers the publication of the constitution another Palestinian provocation. The official version of the constitution is slated to be published in Tunis tonight or tomorrow."]

Government: Limited Right To Extradite From Gaza

TA2905155394 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1100 GMT 29 May 94

[Text] Israel does not have the right to call on the PLO to extradite the terrorists who murdered the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] soldiers at the Erez junction. This comes about from a Foreign Ministry investigation of the agreement following a demand by Knesset Member [MK] Beni Begin to have the murderers extradited.

Our correspondent reports that an investigation by Foreign Ministry jurists showed that even when there is firing at IDF soldiers during a joint patrol with the Palestinian police, Israel can only demand the extradition of the perpetrators if they are captured in a chase immediately following the shooting. MK Begin said that this proves the agreement has converted Gaza into a refuge for terrorists.

Savir Urges Palestinians To Drop Jerusalem Issue

TA2705184794 Jerusalem New Channel 2 Television Network in Hebrew 1700 GMT 27 May 94

[Text] Israel wants to decrease the PLO's activity in Jerusalem to a minimum. Foreign Ministry Director General Uri Savir, who returned from Washington last night, says the Americans explained to 'Arafat in no uncertain terms that any attempt to raise the issue of Jerusalem at the present time will foil the negotiations. Our political correspondent 'Imanu'el Rosen spoke with Mr. Savir.

[Begin Savir recording] The Americans are signalling to the PLO not to rock the boat by introducing issues that are not mentioned in the Declaration of Principles. Raising the issue of Jerusalem at the present time amounts to stopping the process. We have explained that whatever took place up to now is okay, but the autonomy institutions will be located either in Gaza or in Jericho. We cannot compromise on any part of the agreement, certainly not on a point which is central for us, that is, the issue of Jerusalem. [end recording]

Our political correspondent adds that the early empowerment talks will commence in the near future in Jericho and Tel Aviv alternately. This was concluded by Israel and the United States.

Jerusalem 'Satisfied' With Palestinian Authority

TA3105083294 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 31 May 94 p 9

[Report by Moti Bassok]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] Jerusalem is satisfied with the way the Palestinians have begun to assume control of life in Gaza and Jericho, although the financial situation is a constant threat looming in the background.

The appointments to the Palestinian Authority—the Palestinian government in Gaza and Jericho—were received with satisfaction and relief in Jerusalem due to the new authority's composition as well as the emphatic declaration by 'Arafat and his men, reaffirming their commitment to the peace process and the agreements with Israel. After the adverse statements by 'Arafat and senior PLO officials, Israel feared that 'Arafat's Authority appointments would include names Israel would be unable to endorse; this did not happen. In addition, as the prime minister has repeatedly stated and as senior defense establishment officials have declared in closed meetings—the implementation on the ground attests to the sincere desire of all the moderate Palestinian elements to implement the Cairo agreement to the letter. It is equally clear that the Palestinian policemen's attitude to the agreement and to Israelis is the result of orders from upper echelons, rather than a local officers' initiative. [passage omitted]

Israel believes that the disclosure of the Johannesburg tapes and the prime minister's unequivocal response to them, along with enraged reactions from the international community and bitter reactions from Palestinian leaders, will moderate the provocative declarations of 'Arafat and other Palestinian leaders. [passage omitted]

UN Envoy for Iraqi Disarmament Visits Amman

Ekeus Confers With Prime Minister

JN2905201894 Amman Jordan Television Network in English 1900 GMT 29 May 94

[Text] Head of the United Nations commission disarming Iraq, Rolf Ekeus, briefed Prime Minister Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali on developments and progress of his commission's responsibilities in Iraq.

The meeting also focused on some of the region's issues. The UN official said he was keen on hearing Jordanian assessment of the situation in the region.

He said there were no major differences with Baghdad on monitoring its weapons, and that he expected the Security Council to hold detailed discussions in July on easing trade sanctions imposed on Iraq.

Ekeus said there was good hope that the lifting of the sanctions can happen within the foreseeable future.

[Begin recording] [Ekeus] I was, and I am very interested to listen to the assessment of the Jordanian Government and the prime minister of the situation in the region, and especially with regard to the problems and developments coming out from the Iraqi situation, where we have special responsibilities.

[Unidentified correspondent] Are your considering to lift the sanctions on Iraq, or easing it?

[Ekeus] This is as I said, there are provisions that if the Security Council finds that Iraq has fulfilled all its obligations with regard to the weapons, you know, the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, and the control of the missiles so they can no longer be a threat to the region and its neighbors, then the embargo will be lifted, and think its good hope that this can happen within the foreseeable future. It's up to the Special Commission however to give the Security Council the facts for such a decision. [end recording]

After meeting with Iraqi head of Military Industrialization 'Amir Rashid in Amman, Ekeus said the sanctions issue is very high on the United Nations agenda. He said he would brief the Security Council of the latest developments in two days' time.

A UN weapons inspection team, meanwhile, is currently in Iraq to prepare guidelines for the long-term monitoring agreed with Baghdad before lifting the embargo.

The team arrived in Baghdad yesterday to join another team that flew to Iraq last week.

Meets With Iraqi Officials

JN3005124694 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 30 May 94 pp 32, 24

[Report by Hamdan al-Hajj]

[Text] Amman—Rolf Ekeus, head of the UN Special Commission entrusted with disarming Iraq, has said that he will submit a detailed report on Iraq's positive positions toward the Commission's efforts. At the same time, Ekeus asserted that the UN Security Council will discuss the situation in Iraq on 2 July. He, however, ruled out a final decision on the economic blockade imposed on Iraq. He said there will be detailed discussions on easing these sanctions.

In an exclusive statement to AL-DUSTUR, Ekeus described Iraq's response to the Commission's efforts as constructive, noting that they supported the Commission's tasks. This is despite the fact that Iraq's response to Security Council Resolution No. 715 was delayed for at least three years, which postponed discussions and monitoring of the arms possessed by Iraq. Consequently, this has perpetuated the Iraqi people's suffering due to the failure of their leadership to respond to the international resolutions.

Ekeus said he expected there to be a possibility for reducing the suffering the Iraqis are facing if precise monitoring and follow-up systems for Iraqi arms are worked out. He pointed out that if the Security Council member states, particularly those with the right to veto, are convinced, matters will become easier later. However, matters will not stop at this because Iraq will later be asked to recognize the new Kuwaiti border, solve some humanitarian issues, and confirm its real intention toward regional stability and peace in general.

Ekeus noted that the Commission's task is not confined to removing and destroying Iraqi arms but also includes verifying that Iraq will not acquire these arms again whether by manufacturing them, importing them, or both. He asserted that Iraq will not be simply left alone after it fully implements and totally responds to the Security Council resolutions. There will be continuous and long-term monitoring of Iraqi arms lasting seven or more years to prevent Iraq from manufacturing arms or approaching such things again. He indicated that Iraq is one of the richest countries in the world. Who knows what Iraq will do after lifting the embargo and ending the suffering it is passing through? Iraq may need a few months to recover, so monitoring must continue, he said.

Ekeus stressed that Iraq should resort to peace, stability, and building of its state on bases far from armament in order to remove the fears and doubts of its neighbors in the entire region.

Before departing Amman yesterday evening, Ekeus said the Iraqi Government has actually begun to comply with the Security Council resolutions pertaining to the economic sanctions on Iraq, and that he is optimistic about ending the blockade imposed on Iraq in the near future. In a statement to AL-DUSTUR, he added that his talks with 'Amir Rashid, head of the Iraqi Military Industrialization Organization, were fruitful and that he sensed Iraq's real desire for commitment and for ending the sanctions imposed on it.

Ekeus also met with [Iraq's UN representative] Nizar Hamdun. They discussed Iraqi arms, inspection issues, and the extent of their conformity with the Security Council resolutions. Ekeus said that this is the first time he has met with Iraqi officials in Amman.

House Speaker on Request To Mediate in Yemen

JN3005065394 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 30 May 94 p 1

[Text] Amman—The Lower House of Parliament has not yet responded to a request by a southern Yemeni official to play a "prominent role" in mediation efforts to end the war in Yemen in accordance with conditions set by the Yemeni Socialist Party (YSP) in Aden.

House Speaker Tahir al-Masri said Sunday he hasn't yet looked into ways of dealing with the request, which was made by Anis Hasan Yahya, president of "the Provisional Assembly for National Salvation" the caretaker parliament in the "Yemen Democratic Republic."

In the letter, which was faxed to Mr. Masri Saturday evening, Mr. Yahya called on Jordan to intervene to "end the bloodshed and the destruction for our people and country" by demanding an end to the war and the withdrawal of northern Yemeni forces to the borders that existed between South and North Yemeni before they merged in 1990.

Mr. Yahya also called on the Kingdom to work with other "Arab brethren" to launch unconditional negotiations between the warring parties in Yemeni under the auspices of the Arab League.

The southern Yemeni official said Aden welcomes a prominent role for Jordan in negotiating an end to the war, especially that Amman hosted the signing of the Yemeni reconciliation accord in February.

Civil war erupted in Yemen on May 4 after Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and his then Vice President 'Ali Salim al-Bid failed to find a peaceful settlement to their conflict.

Mr. al-Bid later declared an end to the merger between the north and the south, forming the Democratic Yemeni Republic.

More than three weeks of fighting have failed to produce a military victory for either side and observers expect a protracted civil war. Mr. Salih has rejected foreign mediation efforts, including those by the Arab League, saying the war is an internal Yemeni affair.

The official Jordanian media has taken what seems to be a pro-north Yemeni stand, referring to the government in Sanaa as the legitimate government and calling the forces of Mr. al-Bid secessionists.

Parliamentary sources said Sunday that Jordan opposes the fighting and supports unity, accepting whatever the Yemeni people decide for themselves.

"We will not impose anything on any side," one lawmaker said.

Yemen's 'Abd-al-Ghani Arrives in Amman

JN3105070494 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 0400 GMT 31 May 94

[Excerpt] The Security Council is scheduled to discuss developments in Yemen. The Yemeni Government has expressed its resentment and stated that it viewed such deliberations as interference in Yemeni internal affairs. More in the following report:

Yemeni Presidential Council member 'Abd-al-'Aziz 'Abd-al-Ghani, who arrived in Amman last night on his way to New York to participate in the Council deliberations, said that he will explain to the Council some points dealing with the situation in Yemen.

He emphasized that what is taking place in the Republic of Yemen is an internal affair that does not call for deliberations at international forums. He said what is taking place in Yemen is a movement carried out by elements from the Socialist Party against constitutional legitimacy and the elections from which legitimate establishments were set up. He said these elements want to Yemen to return to the way it was before May 1990 when the country was united.

He said his tour seeks to discuss with the friends and brothers how to deal with the Republic of Yemen in accordance with the principles of international law, which call for respecting sovereignty of states and noninterference in internal affairs.

The Yemeni minister [title as heard] emphasized that the legitimate Yemeni forces are in control of the battlefields on which the separatist forces are fighting.

In his visit to Jordan and his trip to New York, 'Abd-al-Ghani is accompanied by Yemeni Justice Minister 'Abdallah Ahamd Ghanim. The two Yemeni ministers were received upon arrival in Amman by Dr. Fawwaz Abu-al-Ghanam, acting minister of state for foreign affairs, and the Yemeni ambassador in Amman. [passage omitted]

Russian Envoy Comments After Meeting Prime Minister

JN2805122094 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1100 GMT 28 May 94

[Text] Prime Minister Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali received in his office at the Prime Ministry this morning Viktor Posuvalyuk, chief of the Near East and North African Department at the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the special representative of Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

During the meeting, they discussed bilateral relations and regional issues, including the peace process. The Russian official briefed the journalists on this meeting. He said:

[Begin Posuvalyuk recording, in progress] ...and I would like to thank his excellency the prime minister for giving sufficient time for our discussions, which I consider important ones. Discussions were divided into two parts, so to say: One dealt with relations between our two countries; and the other dealt with international and regional issues, led by the peace process.

First of all, I conveyed a salute, through his excellency the prime minister, from President Boris Yeltsin to His Majesty King Husayn. I also conveyed a warm salute from Russian Prime Minister Chernomyrdin to his excellency the prime minister. With regard to bilateral relations, we were agreed that they are generally good. We discussed some details with the participation of our ambassador.

We also agreed on the steps that we will take in the near future in order to consolidate these relations; I mean in economic and other technical fields. This is because we believe that political dialogue is under way, and that it is useful for both sides.

With regard to the peace process, we emphasized our interest in the Jordanian side, in Jordan's importance in the peace process, and in Jordan's participation in the progress of the Arab-Israeli negotiations on the bilateral and multilateral levels. We also discussed matters that are now developing in a dynamic manner. Thus, consultations should also be dynamic. With much satisfaction, I indicate that we agreed on many issues, and that our views were very close. [end recording]

Prince Hasan Addresses London Institute

JN2805080794 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 25 May pp 1, 3

[Text] (J.T.)—His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan said Tuesday [24 May] that although making peace in the Middle East has been arduous and fraught with dangers, "we appear to be over the worst" in the search for a negotiated and comprehensive settlement.

But the Crown Prince warned that much remains to be done if the Arab-Israeli conflict is to be resolved to the satisfaction of all parties.

"We are past the point when symbolic gestures, televised worldwide, carry currency," the Crown Prince said in a lecture he delivered at the London-based Royal United Services Institute for Defence Studies (RUSI), a professional body founded in 1831 and dedicated to the study, analysis and debate of issues affecting defence and international security.

"We have arrived at the point when the substance of peace must be negotiated in detail; when the foundations of a new Middle Eastern order must be laid, block by block."

"In a world that is still seeking a new rationale and order for itself after the end of the cold war, the search for peace in the Middle East assumes great symbolic and practical importance," the Crown Prince told the audience, which included the Duke of Kent, patron of RUSI, as well as members and other invited guests comprising politicians, government and military officials, members of parliament, academicians and representatives of the British, Arabic and international media in London.

But "peace cannot be piecemeal," the Crown Prince said. "It must be comprehensive, and it must be just, if it is to be lasting. All must be given the chance, and the tools, to play their part in building a new Middle Eastern order."

"Jordan signed a common agenda for peace talks with Israel last year," the Crown prince said. "The common agenda represents a significant achievement, but it is no more than a first step on the road to peace. There is still much to be achieved, and much to be negotiated, before the attainment of a comprehensive peace. Jordan is prepared to enter a peace treaty with Israel, once the issues listed in the agenda have been fully discussed and settled to the satisfaction of all. We seek to strike a balance between the need to address the agenda items on the one hand and the need to implement interim agreements and arrangements to sustain the momentum of peace on the other."

After the lecture, Prince Hasan responded to questions related to Arab intelligentsia and the media, anti-Semitism, racial discrimination and extremism.

Voicing his rejection of all forms of anti-Semitism and extremism, the Prince called for solutions to humanitarian issues through agreements by the followers of the three monotheistic religions in a spirit of equality and co-existence.

Following is the full text of the lecture which was entitled "Making Peace in the Middle East":

It is an honour and a pleasure to address the Royal United Services Institute on the complex topic of "Making Peace in the Middle East." Many of you are familiar with the study and logistics of warfare as well as the politics of making peace. I am in a position to assure you that the later is far more difficult to achieve. It is simple to wage war but it is not so easy to conclude a just and lasting peace. Our experience in the Middle East has shown that making peace is constantly fraught with hidden dangers. The search for peace in the region has been arduous and at times intractable. I am pleased to state that we appear to be over the worst.

I have come before you today to speak of Jordan's quest for peace. I will speak of peace in the Middle East, for

that is my region and my history. But what I say of my region holds true for other regions, other situations. The Middle East is strategically located at the cross-roads of the world. In a world that is still seeking a new rationale and order for itself after the end of the cold war, the search for peace in the Middle East assumes great symbolic and practical importance. For if the peoples of my region can find the will and the courage to live together, then surely no conflict is insoluble.

The events of the past year have opened the door to peace in the Middle East. The mutual recognition of the Palestine Liberation Organisation) PLO and Israel gave the region an unprecedented opportunity to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict, a conflict that has taken its toll on us all. The recent implementation of their historic agreement over Gaza and Jericho is another step in the right direction. But we must be under no illusions about the difficulty of our task. Future war must be made inconceivable, the wounds that have kept Arab and Israeli apart must somehow be healed.

There is a tendency in the news media to focus on the most recent and dramatic developments in discussing the Middle East. For many of you, the massacre of Muslim worshipers that took place in Hebron earlier this year may be yesterday's news. But for those who live in the occupied territories, for those who have for generations lived and died with this conflict, it is still a matter of grave concern. It highlights the need, above all, for individuals on the ground to participate in the process of peace-making and confidence- building. Much remains to be done if the conflict is to be resolved. We are past the point when symbolic gestures, televised world-wide, carry currency. We have arrived at the point when the substance of peace must be negotiated in detail; when the foundations of a new Middle Eastern order must be laid, block by block. Concepts for fresh patterns of inter and intra-regional relationships must be thought out, so that they can be put in place to the benefit of all. This is not the stuff of headlines. But this is the stuff of which true peace is made.

Jordan has demonstrated its commitment to this kind of peace-making time and again over the years. Though we were not directly involved with the outbreak of hostilities, from the early days of the U.N. Gunnar Jarring mission in 1967 to the Madrid Conference in 1991, Jordan's approach to making peace has been clear and consistence. We were the first country of the region to advocate a negotiated settlement to the conflict. Jordan played an active role in formulating United Nations Security Council Resolution 242, which calls for an end to the conflict and the exchange of land for peace. Jordan has consistently supported the U.N. Resolutions 242 and 338 as the basis for peace in the Middle East. We promoted the genesis of the Madrid peace process, and enabled the Palestinians to assume their proper role, firstly by disengaging from the West Bank, and then by providing an umbrella for Palestinian negotiators to participate in the bilateral and multilateral negotiations. Jordan signed a common agenda for peace talks with Israel last year. The common agenda represents a significant achievement, but it is no more than a first step on the road to peace. There is still much to be achieved, and much to be negotiated, before the attainment of a comprehensive peace. Jordan is prepared to enter a peace treaty with Israel, once the issues listed in the agenda have been fully discussed and settled to the satisfaction of all. We seek to strike a balance between the need to address the agenda items on the one hand, and the need to implement interim agreements and arrangements to sustain the momentum of peace on the other. Foremost among the outstanding issues are the questions of boundaries, refugees, security and water.

These issues are of the essence in the making of peace. We feel that there is a desperate need for a mechanism to effect the delineation and demarcation of our boundaries. It will be extremely difficult to make arrangements in other fields before the issues of borders and security are resolved. What sense can it make to speak of Jordanian and Israeli interests and concerns when neither "Jordan" nor "Israel" have been defined? The question has direct relevance to the recent events in the occupied territories and in Israel. Within the security framework, the problem of Israeli settlements must be resolved. Their questionable legality notwithstanding, the settlements represent a time-bomb which may be primed whenever a group of settlers, or any other organisations opposed to peace-making, wish to derail the peace process. Peace cannot be made and should not be made under such circumstances.

We have submitted several proposals to deal with such issues, and stand ready to undertake project studies in these fields. We believe that a Boundary Commission will help to resolve the issue of boundaries, and we have put forward this proposal as a concrete contribution to the architecture of a lasting regional peace. On the issue of refugees, we are negotiating within the parameters of international law.

Another issue that will demand considerable attention is the final status of the holy city of Jerusalem. A city revered for its shrines and its history by Muslims, Christians and Jews alike must be the ultimate symbol of peace. It is our belief that the religious significance of Jerusalem is such that its status is a truly international concern. It cannot be settled by Israelis and Palestinians alone, for the holy city should not be subject to the exclusive political control of any state. In determining the future of Jerusalem, Jordan believes that a vital distinction needs to be made between religious and political sovereignty. We have formulated detailed proposals to effect such a distinction, for we believe that a proper resolution to the Jerusalem question is essential in the search for peace.

We have also implemented several substantial confidence building measures. We have re-opened Jordanian bank branches in the occupied territories, in order to assist in the development of the Palestinian economy. To

the same end, we have signed an economic cooperation agreement with the Palestinians, and participated in the training of Palestinian police officers. We have established the Trilateral Working Group to look at issues of interest to Jordan, the U.S. and Israel, and this group may now be promoted to ministerial level. We are optimistic about the prospects for a Middle East economic conference and for a Jordan Rift Valley development concept, but are awaiting positive developments in this field. We are, of course, prepared to consider other mechanisms to build confidence regionally.

While engaged in the substance of negotiation, Jordan has been considering more long-term mechanisms to deal with the legacies of the conflict in a reciprocal manner. We have evolved a vision of a new regional order under-pinned by a number of political and economic mechanisms that could help render future conflict unthinkable.

Attention has been focused on practical measures to generate a process for regional security and cooperation. The promotion of sustainable modes of negotiation to resolve all outstanding regional disputes is increasingly necessary when the ultimate goal is a peaceful Middle East without barriers. An example exists in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE). While this organisation has faced its share of criticism, particularly in dealing with conflicts such as that in the former Yugoslavia, it has successfully articulated a code of conduct for times of peace. This is precisely what the Middle East requires. We in Jordan believe that this conceptual framework can contribute to lasting peace in the region, and we have accordingly long called for a Helsinki Process, a conference on Security and Cooperation, for the Middle East (CSCME).

It should be made clear that the CSC process is not envisaged as a substitute for the peace process, but as a natural compliment to it, and one that can remain in place to the benefit of all after the achievement of a negotiated peace. We do not propose the wholesale adoption of a one-off blueprint, but the adaptation of a flexible paradigm. We are entirely open to alternatives, so long as they can provide us with what we desperately need: neutral and low-key fora at which the common and inter-connected challenges of security and cooperation can be discussed in a global idiom.

Within the context of a regional security regime the size, role and function of armed forces in the individual states of the region are likely to undergo radical changes. The transformation would be in favour of peace keeping. Jordan's armed forces have led the way in this respect. Our personnel are already serving in this capacity under the U.N. command as far afield as Mozambique, Liberia and in former Yugoslavia. More significantly, Israel's military superiority and the organic bond established with the U.S. through the doubtful syndrome of "arms for flexibility," or "hardware for software," which was devised by Henry Kissinger, would have to be considered and reassessed under a regional security system. Regional security must be so both in scope and substance. As shared values and aims take root, the notion of favoritism will become increasingly invidious and increasingly insupportable.

Clearly the region comprises a diverse collection of peoples, who nevertheless share many historical experiences and perspectives. The European Union has conceptually divided the Middle East into three main areas: The Maghreb, the Mashreq and Turkey. From Jordan's point of view, at the epicentre of the region, the Middle East straddles and extends beyond the frontiers of Europe and Asia. It is integrally tied to both continents, with the Mediterranean serving as a link, rather than a barrier. In the long term, the future of the Middle East and that of Europe cannot be separated. In this ever more inter-dependent world, the interests of our two regions are increasingly at one. It would therefore be wise, in formulating strategies for the future of the region, to consider the European experience; for we in Jordan believe that the Middle East can have no future unless it evolves a global vision, backed up by subregional and regional instruments. The next step would therefore be to consider which instruments would be appropriate.

A free-trade zone across the Middle East, allowing for the free movement of labour, goods, capital and services, would represent a significant achievement to this end. Arrangements for a Middle East Free Trade Agreement—a MEFTA along the lines of EFTA or NAFTA—would allow the region to play a more creative role in tPe world economy. In aspiring to this goal, it will be necessary to consider the freedom of movement of all factors of production. In this context, a dialogue on the rights of migrant labour must be a vital prerequisite; for the existence of surplus labour in the north, and capital in the south, immediately suggests a viable regional trade regime.

Of course, many outstanding issues must be resolved before such a vision can be realised. Even under conditions of peace, the disparity between the Israeli economy and those of the other regional parties, particularly the core parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict, demands appropriate measures to fashion a balanced relationship in a graduated manner. The examples of Spain and Portugal within the EU are worth considering in this regard.

A GATT-EU approach may be the best way to deal with the economic legacies of the conflict, and to put the region on a viable, sustainable economic footing. Jordan believes that in seeking to evolve a healthy trade and investment regime, the experience of other countries—such as the Zone Franche arrangements between Geneva and France—will be invaluable. The European Commission has recently stressed the need for a common regional vision as a basis for cooperation in the Middle East. In a communication on this subject, it states:

"Partnership requires balanced economic development. If cooperation is to succeed it is essential to reduce

excessive disparities in income levels between potential partners in the region." It adds that:

"Cooperation should go in two directions: the pooling of common capacities and the tackling of common problems...implying, at some stage, freedom of movement for goods, services, capital and labour "

It is clear, then, that international investment in development projects which serve the region and its peoples is the way forward. it is equally important that such projects be founded upon sound concepts, and that they receive the support of international financial institutions, governments and multinational corporations alike. A basketing approach, covering human cooperation, resource cooperation and security, must be evolved. Peace requires an enduring structure that can tackle the over-arching problems of the economies of the region: disparities created by conflict, over-extended public sectors, addiction to aid and oil revenues. An economic framework is needed to deal with such problems.

Many other instruments could play a part in forging such a framework. For example, regional bodies and charters are needed to ensure equity in resources-related areas such as energy and water; while incentives for local sustainable development programmes can support policies that guarantee a future for all. A regional debt sinking fund, and a bank for Middle East reconstruction and development, will promote stable and open financial practices, improving the chances for the region to play a dynamic part in the world economy.

The concept of reconstruction is particularly vital. The Arab-Israeli conflict has exacted a severe toll on the region. With the promise of peace in the region, the international community looks increasingly towards the occupied territories. Jordan fully supports the effort to give the Palestinian people the tools they need to realise their historic dreams. We will do everything in our power to ensure the success of arrangements for Palestinian interim self-government. But although the Palestine question has always been the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, the entire region has suffered. Vast debt burdens have been accumulated as a direct result of the conflict; unimaginable demographic strains have been imposed on countries with scarce resources. Peace, then, cannot be piecemeal. To use those famous words, I put it to you that peace must be comprehensive, and it must be just, if it is to be lasting. All must be given the chance, and the tools, to play their part in building a new Middle Eastern order.

Economic Talks With PLO, Israel To Occur 'Soon'

JN2905065094 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 29 May 94 pp 1, 5

[Excerpt] Amman—Jordan, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Israel will "soon" hold economic talks to discuss economic ties among the three sides, Prime Minister 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali said Saturday after meeting with Russian presidential envoy Victor Posuvalyuk.

The prime minister did not indicate when and where the talks would be held or whether they would materialise after the PLO signs an economic agreement it had reached with the Kingdom in Amman earlier this month. [passage omitted]

Talks Explore Economic Ties With Palestinians

JN3005190394 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 30 May 94

[Text] Jordan constitutes a strategic extension of the Palestinian economy. This was stressed by the Palestinian side during its meeting with the Jordanian side at the Amman Chamber of Commerce this morning. The two sides discussed ways of establishing and enhancing Jordanian-Palestinian economic cooperation in the fields of trade, industry, agriculture, tourism, hotel management, finance, services, transportation, and contracts. The two sides also discussed the possibility of establishing joint companies to market Palestinian and Jordanian products and promote goods in foreign and local markets.

The two sides also tackled ways of attracting capital and investment companies in order to create a Palestinian-Jordanian economic entity by establishing joint industrial, trade, agricultural, housing, services, and touristic projects in the interest of both sides. They then reviewed joint coordination to unify standards and specifications and establish the proposed standards and specifications center in Palestine that will fully coordinate with the standards and specifications center in Jordan.

[Begin 'Abd-al-Rahman Abu-Layl, head of the Palestinian Chamber of Industry, recording] We have come here to coordinate with our brothers in Amman the future economic march in the interest of both the Palestinian and Jordanian economies and to establish joint cooperation. We view Jordan as a strategic extension of the Palestinian economy. Therefore, doors will be opened, and we will have an outlet to the Arab world from our beloved Jordan. So, we would like to lay the groundwork for building that economy. We are now talking on behalf of the Palestinian businessmen and the Palestinian private sector that will carry out that duty. [end recording]

The Jordanian-Palestinian conference on development and investment, which will be held under the patronage of His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, was one of the most important proposals made by both sides during today's meeting—a conference which will be a manifestation of economic cooperation between the two countries. More than 300 people will be invited to attend the conference, in addition to both sides' officials.

General Secretary of Parliament Said Relieved of Duties

JN3005070694 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 30 May 94 p 3

[Text] Amman—The General Secretary of Parliament Salih al-Zu'bi has been relieved of his duties and appointed an advisor at the Prime Ministry, informed sources told the JORDAN TIMES Sunday.

The sources said the Cabinet decided to remove Dr. Zu'bi from his post during a session Saturday, but has not yet agreed on a replacement for him.

Dr. al-Zu'bi who had earlier worked as an ambassador, took up his post at Parliament in 1990.

Sources said among the candidates to replace Dr. Zu'bi are Helmi al-Sarabi, a legal advisor at the Prime Ministry and Hakam Khayr, who is the official spokesman of al-Watan Party.

Mr. Khayr's affiliation with al-Watan, however, could weaken his chances to land the job as it is preferred that the general secretary of Parliament is an independent figure, the sources said.

"We hope that the newcomer would be able to redress the deterioration in support services provided to deputies by the General Secretariat," one lawmaker told the JORDAN TIMES.

The deputy said there has been a noticeable regression in the quality of administrative services awarded to lawmakers, which reflected on their ability to deal effectively with issues of concern to the public.

Other parliamentary sources echoed the lawmaker in expressing dissatisfaction with the performance of the General Secretariat, saying they hoped the change would bring about an improvement in the services it is supposed to extend to lawmakers.

Government Pushes UN Censure of Israel

Buwayz Expects U.S. Veto

NC2705173494 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 27 May 94

[Excerpts] Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz has announced that Foreign Ministry Secretary General Zafir al-Hasan will call the major powers' ambassadors in Lebanon tomorrow. He will discuss Lebanon's request for a Security Council meeting to debate the Lebanese complaint against Israel in the abduction of Lebanese citizen Mustafa al-Dirani. He said Lebanon expects the United States to use its veto power, but the Security Council must live up to its responsibilities. He expressed his belief that the United Nations could restore its credibility by taking appropriate action. [passage omitted] Answering journalists' questions, Foreign Minister Buwayz said:

[Begin Buwayz recording] Of course the wavering in dealing with Israel by the Security Council, the United Nations, and several influential and major powers is no longer a secret. We are at a stage where numerous Israeli aggressions are overlooked. Hence, we believe that the United Nations should regain its credibility by taking an appropriate decision on this issue. [end recording]

Ministry Summons UNSC Ambassadors

NC2805133594 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1300 GMT 28 May 94

[Text] Foreign Ministry Secretary General Zafir al-Hasan today summoned the ambassadors of the United States, Russia, France, Britain, and China for consultations on Lebanon's call for a UN Security Council [UNSC] meeting to discuss Israel's kidnapping of al-Hajj Mustafa al-Dirani.

Al-Hasan said Lebanon's decision to request a Security Council meeting will not await a response by the five big powers. He explained that Lebanon's Permanent Representative to the UN Khalil Makkawi has been instructed to call for a meeting without specifying a date for it.

After the meeting, Russian Ambassador Gennadiy Ilichev said he will convey Lebanon's request to his government for a decision. U.S. Ambassador Mark Hambley denied that he knows anything about U.S efforts to discourage Lebanon from calling for a UN Security Council meeting.

Buwayz: UNSC Meeting Not Imminent

NC2905200094 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1900 GMT 29 May 94

[Excerpts] At 2000 today, Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz left Beirut for Amman to attend the conference of the Economic and Social Commission of West Asia, ESCWA, which will be held in the Jordanian capital between 29 and 31 May.

Speaking at the airport, Buwayz noted that before the events, Lebanon was the seat of ESCWA, which deals with economic development and construction. [passage omitted]

Asked about the latest developments in the contacts to call a UN Security Council [UNSC] session on Lebanon's complaint against Israeli acts of aggression and piracy, Buwayz replied: The Lebanese decision, of course, is geared toward convening a Security Council session to discuss the Lebanese complaint that was filed last week. We summoned the ambassadors of the permanent Security Council members yesterday to inform them of this decision and to find out their positions toward it.

He added: We know that the Security Council is facing some difficulties—let us call them difficulties. But in effect, we have to lay the responsibility on the shoulders of the Security Council, in any case.

Minister Buwayz was then asked: What are these difficulties? He replied: You know that heavy pressure may prevent the Security Council from holding a session immediately and automatically, as should have happened when we filed the complaint last week and asked for a session so that an appropriate resolution can be adopted.

Hizballah Vows Retribution for Kidnapping

'Source' Dismisses UN Mediation

NC2705184094 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 27 May 94

[Text] Responding to UN Secretary General Dr. Butrus-Ghali's announcement of his readiness to mediate in the Mustafa al-Dirani issue, a responsible Hizballah source emphasized that Butrus-Ghali's move is aimed at imparting legitimacy to the terrorist Zionist action. The source said the move also proves that the United Nations is no longer an authority fit to make decisions on various issues and conflicts and that it has turned into a podium for the U.S. political stand.

Qasim Promises 'Strongest Blow'

NC2805165494 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 28 May 94

[Text] Hizballah Deputy Secretary General Shaykh Na'im Qasim has affirmed that the confrontation arena with the enemy is wide open. He underscored the need for local peace and stability.

He said: Israel has scored a point in the confrontation with the Resistance. But the men of the Resistance will continue to deal their strong blows. The strongest blow ever will be dealt to the enemy soon.

Nasrallah Calls For End to Talks

NC3005060194 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 0430 GMT 30 May 94

[Text] Hizballah Secretary General Hasan Nasrallah has called on the Lebanese Government to withdraw from the peace talks in response to Israel's abduction of Mustafa al-Dirani. He affirmed that civilian peace is in the interest of the resistance, coexistence, and building a state to which all Lebanese aspire.

Al-Dirani's family yesterday appealed to the International Committee of the Red Cross [ICRC] to act quickly in providing medical assistance to him. In a memorandum submitted to the ICRC, al-Dirani's family held Israel responsible for the deterioration of his health and for preventing the Red Cross from visiting him.

Russians Meet al-Hariri, Depart for Amman

NC2705183794 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 27 May 94

[Text] Prime Minister Rafiq al-Hariri and Viktor Posuvalyuk, director general of the Middle East and North Africa Department in the Russian Foreign Ministry, discussed peace process developments today. Russian Ambassador in Lebanon Gennadiy Ilichev attended the meeting, which took place before the Russian delegation's departure for Amman. This is the third stop on its tour that will also take the delegation to Israel.

Al-Hariri Returns From Damascus Talks

NC2905164094 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 29 May 94

[Text] Prime Minister Rafiq al-Hariri returned to Beirut this afternoon from Damascus following talks with Syrian Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam and other senior Syrian officials. The talks dealt with the affairs of Lebanon and the area in the light of the developments in the peace talks.

Information Minister Michel Samahah and Health Minister Marwan Hamadah also met this morning in the Syrian capital with their Syrian counterparts and discussed media and health affairs within the framework of the coordination between the Lebanese and Syrian ministries.

Al-Asad Receives Yemen's al-'Attas

JN2705180894 Damascus Syrian Arab Television Network in Arabic 1730 GMT 27 May 94

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas, former Yemeni prime minister and envoy of 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party, accompanied by 'Abd-al-Qawi Makkawi and Dr. 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Dali, at 1130 today. Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' attended the meeting.

Talks dealt with the situation in Yemen and its regrettable developments, as well as the current efforts to address it. The talks also dealt with the impact of this situation on sisterly Yemen and its future as well as on the pan-Arab interest of the Arab nation.

The president emphasized to the Yemeni delegation that Syria is concerned about what is taking place in Yemen and is anxiously following the bloody developments that replaced brotherly dialogue in addressing differences. The president said fighting is not in the interest of the fraternal Yemeni people, the Arab nation, or the unionist aspirations of the Arab masses. The president said Syria renews its appeal to the Yemeni brothers to stop resorting to arms and blood, apply logic, observe national and pan-Arab interests, and return to constructive brotherly dialogue out of concern for Yemen and its unity—land and people.

The Yemeni delegation expressed its appreciation for Syria's pan-Arab position.

Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas and his delegation left Damascus this evening following a two-day visit. Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' saw them off at Damascus International Airport.

In a statement to the Syrian Arab News Agency, al-'Attas said: Today, we were honored to be received by President Hafiz al-Asad. We were pleased by the positive stand of sisterly Syria and by the accurate analysis of the current situation in Yemen. Viewpoints were completely identical on the danger posed by the continuation of war in Yemen. This war threatens Yemen as well as the Arab nation and the region with numerous dangers. Therefore, we agreed to exert efforts and work together to stop the war and deal with all differences peacefully.

Asked about halting fighting and preserving Yemeni unity, he said: This is what we are working for. I think the mission on which we have to work, along with brothers in Syria and all brothers and friends, is that of stopping the war. By stopping the war, we can deal with all issues and preserve what remains of Yemen and safeguard its unionist march.

Responding to a question on the presence of contacts between Aden and Sanaa, he said: There are no contacts at present, except for those held through brothers and friends and the Arab League.

Al-'Attas described his visit to Damascus by saying: It was a visit we highly value because I sensed a positive stand of solidarity and an accurate analysis of the situation in our country as a result of the recently-declared war.

Al-'Attas welcomed all mediation and efforts to stop the war and avert further Yemeni losses and address the situation peacefully. He said: We welcomed the Egyptian mediation and the Egyptian-Emirian mediation and we welcome every mediation.

Radio: Peace Means Departure of 'Last Israeli Soldier'

JN2805140194 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1130 GMT 28 May 94

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: Yitzhaq Rabin, the head of the Israeli government, has acknowledged the wide gap between the Israeli and Syrian positions on the peace process. Shim'on Peres, the Israeli foreign minister, said earlier in Washington that Syria's terms for negotiations are unacceptable and that it wants to wrest great concessions from Israel, especially with regard to full withdrawal from the Golan.

It seems Israeli officials continue to block and hinder prospects for achieving a real breakthrough in the peace process based on the Security Council resolutions and the land-for-peace principle.

What Peres terms great concessions is an outright fallacy. The Golan has been Syrian territory since time immemorial. It is an indivisible part of Syria. Therefore, Israel's withdrawal amounts to nothing more than a correction of an abnormal situation and the end of an aggression that has continued since 1967.

Security Council resolutions have asked Israel to pull its troops out and not to change the identity of the Golan and the other occupied territories. The U.S. peace initiative was launched, in the first place, on the basis of Resolutions 242 and 338 and the land-for-peace principle, as well as the need to achieve a just and comprehensive settlement on all fronts of the conflict.

The ABC's of justice suggest that occupation should be removed; usurped territory should be returned to its owners; and that Israel should submit to UN law and stop pursuing the law of the jungle. Humanity is preparing to enter the 21st Century. Occupation has been removed from all over the Earth. All nations have attained their freedom and independence. It is illogical that Israel should stay above international law, practicing a policy of occupation and terrorism and deeming the invasion of others' territories a legitimate right and the displacement of the residents of those territories a fact of life.

Israel's claim will remain worthless until this claim is translated into actual, concrete stands toward peace. Since 1948, the rulers of Israel have been crying out for peace and at the same time igniting wars and carrying out attacks in the name of working to achieve peace. But, when the Arabs responded to the first serious U.S. initiative, the Israeli rulers' peaceful claims turned into obstacles and hindrances in the way of the progress of the peace process.

Syria, along with Lebanon and Jordan, have proposed full peace in return for full withdrawal. However, the Israeli rulers rejected outright the principle of full withdrawal and hinted at the possibility of partial withdrawals in return for a series of impossible conditions and restrictions. In Lebanon's case, for example, the Israeli rulers have escalated their brutal land, air, and sea attacks against Lebanon, because Lebanon adheres to the implementation of Security Council Resolution 425. They deemed their message to Lebanon a message to all Arabs who ask for the withdrawal of the occupying Israeli forces to the 4 June 1967 lines.

The rulers of Israel have also rejected a comprehensive withdrawal from the Golan under fabricated pretexts. They deliberately foiled any prospect for real progress on the Syrian-Israeli track. In fact, Rabin has gone as far as making a commitment to hold a public referendum on the Golan, as if Israel is above international and UN law and can simply occupy and annex the land of others while the owners of the land are not allowed to claim it or to defend its identity, culture, and history.

These Israeli practices, in the Golan, southern Lebanon, and the Palestinian arena, clearly confirm that Israel does not want peace and that it has never abandoned its expansionist and aggressive schemes. It is no coincidence at all that the Government of Israel has threatened to occupy the Gaza Strip and Jericho once again if the Palestinian self-rule authorities do not abide by Israel's instructions.

Peace in the eyes of the entire world means establishing justice and right and ending occupation, injustice, oppression, and terrorism. In Israel's book, however, peace is a cheap deal that guarantees that Israel will swallow as much as it can of others' territories that it has occupied by force, deception, and trickery.

It is natural for Syria and the other Arab parties to reject such aggressive proposals and adhere to the restoration of all their occupied territories and to assert international law in the region.

The Israelis are greatly mistaken if they think their maneuvers and tactics, which have exceeded all limits, will make the Arabs abandon their territories and rights. Syria said yesterday—and it reiterates today and will reiterate tomorrow—that there can be no relinquishment of any single iota of the soil of the Golan and that peace depends on the departure of the last Israeli soldier from the Golan and the establishment of a just and comprehensive solution in the region.

Paper Attacks U.S. Stand on Israeli 'Piracy'

JN2905093994 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0730 GMT 29 May 94

[Text] Damascus, 29 May (SANA)—The newspaper AL-BA'TH has called on the international community to take a firm and quick position on Israel's continued attacks and piracy against Lebanese territory.

In a commentary today, the paper adds that these attacks pose grave threats to the region in general and to the Middle East peace process in particular. Israel's impudence and arrogance are the result of the direct political support provided by the United States at the Security Council, the paper notes.

AL-BA'TH rejects the feeble justifications made by Washington and other states supporting Israel at the Security Council to explain their positions on the Israeli crimes. The paper says these justifications try to hold the national resistance responsible for Israeli practices. It emphasizes that resistance is a legitimate and sacred right for anyone subjected to aggression and injustice.

Concluding, the paper says: The deteriorating situation in southern Lebanon is an alarm that requires a swift international move to save both southern Lebanon and the peace process, which is facing a difficult impasse.

Afghanistan

Hekmatyar's Attack Repulsed in Logar

LD2705183394 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Dari 1430 GMT 27 May 94

[Text] An attack of the Golboddin militia was aborted in Logar Province. Quoting a security source of the country, a BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY correspondent reported: The infamous militia of Golboddin launched an attack against the positions of the Islamic Army at 0400 in Mandokhel in the center of Logar Province. The militias were forced to retreat as a result of the resistance of the mojahedin and soldiers of Brigade 800, Jehadi Division 36. The report says that two militia were killed and eight others were injured, and the enemy's one set of BM-1 rocket launchers was destroyed.

Three 'Strategic' Points Captured in North

LD2905162094 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 29 May 94

[Text] Three important and strategic enemy positions in Dar-e Kayhan, Baghlan Province, have fallen into the hands of the Mojahedin.

Security sources report that as a result of successful operations carried out today, three strategic positions in Dar-e Kayhan were captured from the militia. Another enemy stronghold at Zendanak was captured in another successful Mojahedin operation.

In addition, as a result of these activities, which were led by Commander 'Abdol Wali, Commander Baz Muhammad, and Commander 'Abdol Ahad, 12 militias were killed and a large depot containing various types of weapons were seized by the security forces. The activities of the Islamic Army are continuing in these regions.

Four Killed, 10 Injured as Rockets Hit Kabul

LD3005161094 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 30 May 94

[Text] Over the past 24 hours 131 rockets were fired into residential areas of Kabul. According to a report of the Kabul garrison command, the rockets were fired into the city from the directions of Balahesar and Maranjan Hill. As a result four defenseless residents of the city were martyred and 10 others were injured.

According to another report, positions of the Islamic army were attacked yesterday evening west of Kabul. A security source considered the internecine clashes of Hezb-e Wahdat over the appointment of the future party leader as the reason for the attack. The report adds that the adventurist section of Hezb-e Wahdat wants to hide its internal problems from the public by fanning conflict between the Islamic Army and Hezb-e Wahdat. However, Islamic Army units have been emphatically instructed to exercise forbearance before such provocations.

Party Official Killed in Leadership Dispute

LD2905154094 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Dari 1430 GMT 29 May 94

[Text] Shaykh Baqir Fasihi, a member of the Supervisory High Council of Hezb-e Wadaht-e Eslami [Islamic Unity Party], has been martyred in internecine clashes.

As a result of these clashes, Sayed Qasem Nateqi, another member of the Supervisory High Council, along with a number of his guards was injured.

According to reports, clashes among the supporters of Abdol Ali Mazari, secretary general of Hezb-e Wahdat-e Eslami, and supporters of Akbari have taken place after several days of peaceful demonstrations against each other. The report adds that disputes have arisen following the arrival of members of the Central Committee of Hezb-e Wahdat-e Eslami in Kabul in order to elect the future leader of the party. It is noted that 'Abdol 'Ali Mazari is not ready under the present conditions to make a fresh decision on the leadership issue. He has said that members of the Central Committee of Hezb-e Wahdat should be elected first by the party members and than they can decide on the future leadership of the party.

Iran

Khamene'i, Hashemi-Rafsanjani Mark 'Id al-Ghadir Khumm

LD2905135694 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 29 May 94

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Announcer] In Tehran this morning, officials and authorities of the Islamic system gathered in Imam Khomeyni's mosque, may he be admitted to God's paradise, in order to offer congratulations on the occasion of the auspicious 'Id al-Ghadir Khumm, the 'id of guardianship [velayat] and imamate, to His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, the guardian of the cause of Muslims.

[Unidentified Correspondent] At this meeting, the honorable leader made a speech in which he offered his congratulations on the occasion of the great 'Id al-Ghadir to the Muslims and righteousness-seeking people of the world, and the faithful people of Iran. [passage omitted]

His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i described the period of reconstruction and repair of the damages caused during the war as a sensitive and important stage in the history of the revolution. At the end of his speech, he said:

[Begin Khamene'i recording] Today is the stage of reconstruction. Today the people have the opportunity after a long war. For this very same sensitive reason, you can see that the world is attacking the productive policies of the Iranian people with poisoned arrows from all sides. It engages in propaganda, it engages in political games, it

engages in security provocations, it engages in economic sabotage. The enemy does all it can, but thanks be to God, it is not successful in the majority of cases. In this era, the thing that can make you victorious, the thing that can build the nation, the thing that can keep the Iranian people on the political scene, the thing that can mobilize all forces in this holy path of construction is holding on to Islamic values with both hands. [crowd chants] [end recording]

[Announcer] Before the speech by the honorable leader, Hojjat ol-Eslam val Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the president, delivered an address in which he offered his congratulations on the occasion of 'Id al-Ghadir to the honorable leader of the Islamic revolution. [passage omitted] Speaking about Imam 'Ali's appointment, may peace be upon him, as the guardian of the Islamic ummah on 'Id al-Ghadir Khumm, the president said: The Muslim people of Iran rebelled through relying on the principle of guardianship and created the Islamic system. They have put the difficult phase of defense and the problems of the revolution behind them. Today, by using this very same divine blessing of guardianship, while neutralizing the carefully worked out plots of the revolution's enemies, it is successfully going through the difficult period of reconstruction and economic balance. [passage omitted]

Tehran Criticizes Clinton on Bosnia Embargo

NC2805072194 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Turkish 1630 GMT 26 May 94

[Unattributed commentary: "President Clinton's Disclosures on Bosnia"]

[Text] In an address at the graduation ceremony held at the U.S. Naval Academy on 25 May, President Bill Clinton said that he was opposed to lifting the arms embargo on Bosnia's Islamic people. Describing any move to lift the arms embargo as a blow to peace, Clinton stressed that the United States has to work in harmony with its allies to end the war in that country.

According to political observers, President Clinton's views have brought to light the conflicting approaches of U.S. officials on the fighting in Bosnia. The political observers are convinced that the reason for their conflicting approaches is that they care more about their country's vital interests in the Balkans than the fate of Bosnia's Islamic people.

The U.S. Administration has disclosed in the past that the United States does not wish to intervene in the Balkan region because it does not have vital interests in that part of the world. However, it moved to support the Islamic people in Bosnia to create vital interests for itself when the fighting spread in that country. Obviously, Washington was aware that the Serbs are Russia's traditional allies. It was also aware that the Croat people sided with Germany. Therefore, Bosnia-Herzegovina was the most appropriate door to the Balkan region. However, the United States was unable to effectively support the Bosnian people. Consequently, it tried to support them only through propaganda statements, without moving to seriously intervene in the war.

Clinton's disclosures indicate that the White House officials do not wish to help Bosnia's people regain their country. Instead, they prefer to deceive them to create the conditions they need to strengthen Washington's position in that country. They also prefer to maintain their special relations with Britain, Russia, and France.

Understanding why Clinton has ignored the U.S. Senate's ostentatious wish to have the arms embargo on Bosnia's Islamic people lifted will be easier when all that is considered. Furthermore, it has become obvious that Washington does not want Bosnia's Islamic people to defend themselves against the merciless Serbian attacks.

UK Refuses To Confirm Expulsion of Diplomat

LD2805201894 Tehran IRNA in English 1901 GMT 28 May 94

[Text] Tehran, May 28, IRNA—The refusal of the British Foreign Office to comment on the report carried by the daily GUARDIAN Saturday that a ranking Iranian diplomat in London has been ordered to go home, indicates a new provocation on the part of the British Government against Islamic Iran.

A spokesman of the British Foreign Ministry contacted by IRNA Saturday refused to confirm or deny the report saying simply that the content of the talks between the Iranian charge d'affaires in London, Gholam-Reza Ansari, and Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Britain Douglas Hogg was meant to remain undisclosed.

Experts on relations between the two countries say in the event the report by THE GUARDIAN should be true the British Government might have to expect a similar action by Iran.

They believe that the British Government in view of its abortive propaganda campaign against Iran, is trying to take a new provocative step against the Islamic Republic.

In the opinion of Iran-Britain watchers, London intends to exploit the meeting between the two for propaganda purposes. Early this month a section of the British press in a simultaneous move without any documents to substantiate their claim, alleged that the Islamic Republic of Iran was backing the Irish Republican Army (IRA).

The provocative insinuation by the British press, however, was hardly heeded by the media elsewhere in Europe.

Iran-Britain watchers say under the circumstances any hostile action by the British Government towards the Islamic Republic may entail a stronger reaction by Iran which the Britons do not consider to be in their best interest.

International relations consultant Sadeq Azimi says the measure by the British Government might be simply a device for burying its scandalous bugging of the Iranian embassy in London under fresh anti-Iran propaganda. He says any indiscreet action by the British Government might entail ruinous consequences for the British Government.

A sophisticated bugging device planted by the British Secret Service in the Iranian embassy was recently discovered during repairs.

Rowhani Assails Saudi Regional, Hajj Policies

LD2705145894 Tehran IRNA in English 1429 GMT 27 May 94

[Text] Tehran, May 27, IRNA—Majlis Vice-Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Hasan Rowhani here today expressed surprise that certain countries are always trying to kindle war and disputes in the region. "I am asking the hijaz government that how fratricide in Yemen might benefit you," he questioned as he referred to the Saudi provocations in the on-going civil war in Yemen. [sentence as received] "Arabia cannot tolerate a powerful country in its neighbourhood according to a historical logic," he added.

Saudi Arabia supported the Iraqi regime in its war against Iran (1980-88), and supported Kuwait in the Persian Gulf war, he said, however, documents were disclosed later on which showed that Saudi Arabia did not like the disputes to be settled.

Criticizing Riyadh policies in the region, Rowhani advised the Saudi rulers to take lessons from bitter experiences of the past, and choose the path of peace, stability and brotherhood. "Iran has always extended friendship and brotherhood hand to her neighbours within the framework of Islam and international regulations."

Pointing to the Saudi helplessness to carry out a correct planning and to guarantee the security of the hajj pilgrims, Rowhani said administration of a ceremony in a holy site, where 2.5 million pilgrims are present, is a heavy burden on Saudi Arabia.

"We knew from the very beginning that the Saudi administration with all its money and massive presence of foreigners in that country, would not be able to administer the hajj ceremony in a proper way," said the vice-speaker.

He said the death of the hajj pilgrims in Mina is not only limited to the current year. Whenever there is a crowd of pilgrims, the Saudi police think that a demonstration is to be organized, and therefore, attack the people with anti-riot equipment, causing multiple death of the pilgrims.

"If the Saudi police did not involve in the Mina incident this year, the number of victims did not exceed 30," he regretted.

Reiterating the previous proposal by Iran on the administration of the hajj ceremonies by the Islamic countries, he said if Saudi Arabia is not ready to accept the proposal, at least it can accept help by volunteer countries.

"We are sure that if we help Saudi Arabia, hajj pilgrims will not lose their lives to this extent, and the ceremony will be held more appropriately," Rowhani said.

Jannati To Serve as Deputy Hajj Supervisor

LD2905125894 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 29 May 94

[Text] The Saudi Arabian Government has opposed a visit by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Reyshahri, the representative of the supreme jurisconsult [Khamene'i] and the supervisor of the Iranian hajj pilgrims, from holy Mecca to holy Medina. In a written message, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Reyshahri has appointed Ayatollah Ahmad Jannati as deputy supervisor of the Iranian hajj pilgrims and official in charge of the exalted leadership's mission in Mecca.

Earlier the Arabian hajj minister, in a letter addressed to Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Reyshahri, announced the Saudi Government's opposition to a visit from Mecca to Medina by the representative of the supreme jurisconsult. The Saudi Government agreed to the presence of the representative of the supreme jurisconsult and supervisor of the the Iranian hajj pilgrims until the end of the hajj rites, as well as the presence of Iranians in Arabia, in its earlier agreements with Iran.

Commentary on Internationalization of Yemen Crisis

NC2805105894 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0345 GMT 28 May 94

[Commentary by News Research and Commentary Group]

[Text] Although three weeks have passed since the Yemeni crisis began, no solutions have been found to end the conflicts in that country. In the most recent effort to resolve this crisis, the five members of the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council and Egypt have proposed in a letter to the UN Security Council president that the council examine the situation in Yemen. Within this framework, a resolution has been proposed to be discussed by the Security Council. In this proposed resolution an immediate cease-fire between the two conflicting sides and a ban on the dispatch of any type of war materiel and arms to Yemen have been requested. The UN secretary general also has been requested to send a fact-finding mission to Yemen and to pave the way for the resumption of talks between the two conflicting factions. The UN Security Council is expected to begin examining the Yemeni crisis on Tuesday.

The proposal by the six Arab countries to the UN Security Council shows that their attempts to end the conflicts in Yemen are at an impasse. Despite their efforts, the Arab countries—both individually and within the framework of the Arab League—have been unable to prevent the political differences in Yemen from turning into a civil war. This inability has been attributed to the differences of opinion among the Arab countries on the Yemeni crisis.

Having the Yemeni problem discussed by the Security Council automatically grants an international dimension to this crisis. While it is a very welcome development for the leaders of south Yemen, it causes concern among the leaders in the north. Since the outset of the crisis in Yemen, the leaders in the south have constantly sought ways to internationalize the problem in a bid to inflict pressures on the north. The north has referred to the crisis as a domestic issue and has urged foreign countries and international organizations to not become involved.

When the southerners declared their separation from the north and the formation of an independent country, the internationalization of the problem granted them the opportunity to strengthen their bases. Since this weakens Yemen's unity, it is a source of great concern for the northerners who want unity to be preserved.

Nepal

Pakistan's Bhutto Pays Official Visit

Arrives in Kathmandu

BK2405121194 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 1100 GMT 24 May 94

[Text] The prime minister, Ms. Benazir Bhutto, arrived today in Kathmandu on a three-day official visit to Nepal. She was received at the airport by the prime minister, Mr. Girija Prasad Koirala. Ms. Benazir Bhutto said she was delighted to be in Nepal. She said this is her first official visit to any SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] member country. It shows special importance that Pakistan attaches to developing its relations with Nepal. She said we will try to identify areas where we can cooperate so that we can consolidate our historic friendly relations with Nepal.

Holds Talks With Koirala

BK2505161394 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1400 GMT 25 May 94

[Text] Formal talks between the prime minister, Ms. Benazir Bhutto, and the Nepalese prime minister, Mr. Girija Prasad Koirla, were held at the Singhe Darbar in Kathmandu today. The talks, which lasted over 90 minutes, were held in an atmosphere of cordiality, reminiscent of constructive and meaningful cooperation existing between Pakistan and Nepal. Pakistan Television's representative, Abdul Wahid, reports from Kathmandu that regional and international issues, including Kashmir, figured in the talks.

The two leaders also discussed bilateral relations with particular emphasis on economic cooperation. They agreed on steps to enhance cooperation in several fields, including trade and culture. Ms. Benazir Bhutto was assisted by the foreign minister, Sardar Asif Ahmad Ali; the minister of state for finance, Maqdum Shahabuddin; Special assistant to the prime minister on social sector, Begum Shahnaz Wazir Ali; the foreign secretary, Mr. Najmuddin Sheikh; and Pakistan's ambassador to Nepal, Mr. Mohammad Nasir Mian. The Nepalese prime minister, Mr. Girija Prasad Koirala, was assisted by a high-level team which included some cabinet ministers and economic experts.

Talking to newsmen after the talks, Ms. Benazir Bhutto described her discussions with the Nepalese prime minister as useful.

[Begin Bhutto recording] We discussed regional and international issues. And we also discussed how to improve cooperation. We must be holding the joint commission on an annual basis and we are also going to be holding an industrial exhibition here. So, Nepali businessmen can see what goods we have in Pakistan and we are going to have a cultural exchange office for (?our two nations). [end recording]

Speaking at a civic reception hosted by the citizens of Kathmandu this afternoon, the prime minister stressed the need of devotion and hard work for the economic uplift in the developing country. A very warm and colorful reception was extended to the prime minister and members of her entourage when they arrived at the Municipal Hall. The mayor of Kathmandu, Mr. P.L. Singh, greeted the distinguished guests. The prime minister was profusely garlanded. The prime minister was enthusiastically greeted as she entered the hall. The mayor of Kathmandu welcomed the prime minister on her historic visit. The mayor then presented the key of Kathmandu city to the prime minister. Speaking on the occasion, Ms. Benazir Bhutto said the people of Pakistan and Nepal who are fellow members of SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] countries have common struggle for parliamentary democracy and democratic institutions. She reminded that the population living in the developing countries have to strive for achieving the cherished goals of economic betterment of their masses. She thanked the people of Kathmandu for extending a rousing reception to her and the members of her delegation and said this reflects the sentiments of Nepalese people for their Pakistani brethren.

The president of the Nepalese Congress, Mr. Krishnanath Prasad Bhattarai, called on the prime minister, Ms. Benazir Bhutto, in Kathmandu yesterday. During the meeting, the prime minister briefed the president of the Nepalese Congress about the democratic process in

Pakistan. The prime minister also reiterated the unflinching commitment of her government for democracy and the growth of democratic institutions. She said her government is also undertaking steps to bring positive changes in the socioeconomic structure of her country. Mr. Bhattarai paid tributes to the prime minister for her struggle for democracy and the rule of law.

The chairman of the Communist Party of Nepal and the leader of the opposition in the Nepalese parliament, Mr. Manmohan Adhikari, also called on the prime minister, Ms. Benazir Bhutto, in Kathmandu. The leader of the Nepalese opposition lauded the prime minister of Pakistan for her deep commitment toward democracy and human rights. The prime minister, while reciprocating the gesture, informed the Nepalese leader that Pakistan wants to see democracy in South Asia and the growth of human rights in the region.

Addresses News Conference, Departs

BK2705030894 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1400 GMT 26 May 94

[Text] The prime minister, Ms. Benazir Bhutto, has said the resolution of the Kashmir issue is vital to complete the charter of the Pak-India partition plan. She was addressing a news conference in Kathmandu this afternoon prior to her departure for home. Replying to a question on plebiscite in Kashmir, the prime minister said:

[Begin Bhutto recording] (?Already) Pakistan made its demand for plebiscite. And you know who else agreed to plebiscite? Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru of India. And you know who else agreed to plebiscite? The entire international community in the United Nations. So what we are saying is that why this subcontinent gives rapt attention just because India and Pakistan cannot deal with the problem which we have inherited from partition. [sentence as heard] So, we are saying let us solve that. Let us solve that under the Simla agreement and let us in the light of UN resolution (?if we cannot do it bilaterally). So let us do it multilaterally, but let us find a political solution. I noted the Indian scene that this is the Pakistani inspired uprising. But that is not so. There is no difference in this uprising than the difference wherein the people of Nepal rose up against the Rana rulers, for instance. So nobody can quench the desire of freedom because it is the part of the way I think; it is the people of a country or the people of a society. [sentence as heard] If they rise up, nobody can do anything about it. [end recording]

To another question, she said her visit to Nepal will herald a new era of cooperation between Pakistan and Nepal.

A warm send off was given to the prime minister when she left Kathmandu today for Islamabad. The Nepalese prime minister, Mr. Girija Prasad Koirala, bade farewell to Ms. Benazir Bhutto at the Tribhuvan Airport. Also present to see off the prime minister of Pakistan were members of the Nepalese cabinet, the mayor of Kathmandu, senior officials of the government, diplomats based in the Nepalese capital, and members of the Pakistani community. An impressive guard of honor was presented to Ms. Benazir Bhutto. National anthems of the two countries were also played on the occasion. Before boarding the aircraft, the prime minister and members of her entourage deeply thanked the Nepalese prime minister and other officials of his government for the warm hospitality during their stay in Kathmandu.

The prime minister, Ms. Benazir Bhutto, called on his majesty King Birendra of Nepal at Narenhiti Royal Palace in Kathmandu last night. The talks between his majesty and the prime minister lasted over half an hour. Later, King Birendra hosted a dinner in honor of Ms. Benazir Bhutto at the palace. The dinner was also attended by Queen Aishwarya; the prime minister of Nepal, Mr. Girija Prasad Koirala; and members of the prime minister's entourage.

The prime minister is now back in Islamabad.

Pakistan

Bhutto on Nuclear Inspections, Ties With U.S.

BK2705120194 Karachi DAWN in English 27 May 94 p 1

[Text] Islamabad, May 26—Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto said on Thursday that Islamabad had given counter proposals in response to U.S. suggestion that Pakistan should allow non-intrusive inspection of its nuclear installations.

"The question of non-intrusive inspection is an American proposal and we have given counter-proposals based on a regional solution," Ms Bhutto said at a news conference on her return from Nepal.

She was asked to comment on a recent statement of Foreign Minister Sardar Assef Ahmed Ali in which he had said that Pakistan was ready to allow non-intrusive inspection of its nuclear installations.

Denying that the foreign minister had made any such offer, she said: "Pakistan will not accept any uniluteral solution or proposal."

Questioned whether President Farooq Ahmad Khan Leghari would be discussing the nuclear issue with American officials during his current visit to the United States, the Prime Minister said though the President's visit was a private one, "we are using this occasion to have informal talks with U.S. officials and to explain Pakistan's position on the nuclear issue."

Ms Bhutto said she would also be visiting the United States by the end of this year. "I hope it will be a substantive visit."

The Prime Minister said the Pressler Amendment, which debars Pakistan from getting U.S. military and economic aid, was a discriminatory law, "and we want it should go."

Ms Bhutto said Pakistan shared US concern over nuclear proliteration, "but we feel the Pressler Amendment is a veto in the hand of India."

She said Pakistan and the United States were cooperating in anti-narcotics campaign and defence of human rights, and added that the two could move in the nuclear non-proliferation field provided a regional approach on this issue was agreed upon.

Pakistan, she said, was anxious to improve its relations with the United States, but hastened to add that it did not want to do so just for having F-16 fighter aircraft.

"We don't want one-dimensional relationship. It should be a multi-dimensional one," she asserted.

Ms Bhutto said Pakistan had supported America during Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. "We have defended freedom in Afghanistan and we are cooperating with the United Nations in its peacekeeping preparations in Somalia and other parts of the world," she said, while calling for closer relationship between the two countries.

She said her government was building Pakistan as a modern Islamic state where rule of law would be supreme. She said a society would be built where women would have an equal role to play. A women's police station had already been set up and women's courts would also be established, she said.

Answering a question, Ms Bhutto said she wanted the opposition to cooperate with the government on three main issues—Pakistan-U.S. relations, Pakistan-India ties and the nuclear issue. "On these three subjects we (the government and the opposition) should have a unified stand," she said.

Bhutto Forbids Ministerial Comment on Nuclear Issue

BK2705123794 Karachi DAWN in English 27 May 94 p 1

[Text] Islamabad, May 26—Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto on Thursday barred her cabinet members from issuing any statement on the country's nuclear programme.

"I will direct the ministers not to speak on the nuclear issue or answer any question in this regard," Ms. Bhutto said at a Press conference.

She said the nuclear issue was a specialised subject and some nonspecialists were spreading confusion by making statements or replying to questions asked by reporters.

Complaining that some newspapers twisted statements in this regard, Ms Bhutto said that from now onward, no one except herself would speak directly on the issue. "Even the foreign minister will give a written statement on the subject so that no one can twist it," she said and added that if any cabinet member had to reply to any question on the issue he should seek its answer from the foreign minister.

"Statements are printed to create confusion and that's why we say enough is enough," she added.

Ms Bhutto said that first a statement on rolling back Pakistan's nuclear programme was published and, though the government denied it, it was made an issue. "They want to trap us by (printing) such statements."

The Prime Minister regretted that every Tom, Dick and Harry had become an expert on this specialised subject. "They use terms like freezing, capping and rolling back, so loosely that Pakistan's interest is hurt."

President Rules Out Inspection of Nuclear Facilities

BK3105083194 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] The president, Sardar Farooq Ahmad Khan Leghari, has reiterated that Pakistan's nuclear program is peaceful, and we have taken a conscious decision not to use our nuclear capability for weapon production unless our security is threatened. Addressing the Pakistani community in New York, he categorically rejected any inspection of Pakistan's nuclear facilities, saying that the government's policy in this connection is very clear. The president said Pakistan's nuclear program enjoys national consensus, and it is not possible for any government or leader to accept anything imposed from outside contrary to the wishes of the people of Pakistan. He said that reports accusing the government has agreed to open up its facility for any kind of inspections are baseless and frivolous. [sentence as heard]

The president said Pakistan has told the United States that no unilateral solution could be imposed on Pakistan. Any solution to the nonproliferation problem in South Asian region has to be resolved in the regional context. He said that Pakistan has proposed several concrete plans to achieve nuclear nonproliferation in the region, but India has rejected all of them. Under the circumstances, the United States or the world at large could not expect realistically that Pakistan would accept any unilateral obligation.

Replying to a question, he debunked the reports that Pakistan has entered into any secret talks with the United States on the nonproliferation issue. He said Pakistan is pursuing a quiet diplomacy, but not secret diplomacy, as has been done by others. Referring to his talks with the U.S. Administration, the president expressed the confidence that these talks would yield good results.

Security Forces Attack To Release Afghanistan Captives

BK3105103494 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 30 May 94 p 1

[Report by Syed Konain Haider]

[Text] Quetta, May 30—Pakistan security forces have launched an attack inside Afghanistan to get its ten captives released.

They are being kept hostage by an Afghan gun-runner Mullah Bockeri, reliable sources said here Monday.

The attack coincided with the recent two-day visit of Federal Interior Minister General (Retd) Naseerullah Babar to Noshki, a north-western bordering town, 140 kilometres off here.

The sources said that assault at Tazai Rabat (a sub-tehsil) in District Shahjoi of Zabul Province—the stronghold of Mullah Salam Rocketi, has sofar been unsuccessful because Sulemankhail and Tarak tribesmen from the neighbouring Ghazni Province have dispatched reinforcements to repulse the Frontier Corps' (FC) offensive.

Sources said that the heavy exchange of fire had been continuing for the last two days but there was no report of any casualty from either side.

Mullah Salam is holding two Chinese engineers, five employees of Balochistan development Authority (BDA), Deputy Commissioner Ziarat, his driver and gunman as hostages for the last several months seeking ransom and return of his "two Stinger missiles" captured by the FC from his residence inside Pakistan in January last year.

In retaliation Mullah Salam's armed men abducted 30 FC personnel including a major after exchange of fire and taken them to Zabul. The soldiers were released after payment of ransom and a promise for returning his Stinger missiles.

Last month Salam released two BDA employees on the pursuance of a spiritual leader but had set conditions for release of other hostages.

Sources said the FC's attack could provoke the Afghan gun-runner who might harm the hostages.

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